JOHN BULL, DECEMBER 26, 1931
TWOPENCE

JOHN BULL

OVER 1,500,000 CERTIFIED SALE

Vol. L.
No. 1332.

Why Married Women Lose their Looks

WITH all the troubles of a home upon your shoulders, all the worries of making both ends meet, all the cares and anxieties of children, is it any wonder you find yourself getting run down, your looks beginning to go? Is it surprising that your nerves get "ragged"? It would be amazing if they didn't.

Yet that is the way homes get broken up, and, if you only knew, it is the simplest thing in the world to prevent it. However trying household cares can be these days, you needn't lose your looks. Work and worry only affect you because you take nothing to counteract them.

If you find yourself giving way to worry, find your looks going, your nerves getting "jumpy," take a glass of Wincarnis at 11.30, another in the afternoon, and one before you go to bed. You'll feel the benefit almost at once. The very first night you will sleep better than you have for years, and wake up refreshed and reinvigorated. Your nerves will trouble you no more. In a few days your looks will begin to come back.

For Wincarnis, which has the strength-giving elements of the highest grade beef and guaranteed vitamin malt extracts added to the valuable properties of the purest wine, is much more than a stimulant, it creates rich, new blood, soothes jaded, restless nerves and builds up permanent reserves of strength and vigour. Over 20,000 recommendations have been given by medical men.

If you prefer to try a couple of glasses before you buy, send 4d. in stamps to cover postage to Coleman and Company, Ltd., Dept. 72, Wincarnis Works, Norwich.

WINCARNIS
THE WINE OF LIFE

Obtainable from all Wine Merchants, Licensed Chemists and Licensed Grocers. Price 5'6 and 3'3

Have you tried Wincarnis Wine Jelly?
Ask your grocer. *It's delicious!*

FOR SMALL TRADERS, SHOPKEEPERS.

MAKE MONEY.
COCHRANE & SONS help you to make money. Children's Vests, 4/11 per doz. Ladies' Art. Silk Hose, 7/11 per doz. Genuine Tremola Shirts, 2 Collars, 3/11 each. Boys' ribbed Jerseys, 12/- doz. Ladies' Overalls, 7/6 doz. Hundreds of Bargains in our Warehouse. Wholesale only. Quarter dozens supplied. Come and see us, or write for Catalogue. Post free.—Cochrane & Sons, 1, Thomas Street, Manchester.

START a Drapery Business and make money. Get our 60-page Catalogue and ABC Guide free. See page 56, telling you of 7 ways how to make money. Example of our value: Men's Socks, 3/6 doz. Ladies' Art. Silk Stockings, 9/11 doz. Men's Shirts, with two collars, 30/- doz.; Ladies' Print Overalls, 5/6 doz. Children's Print Frocks, 9/-. Men's large size Handkerchiefs, hemstitched, 1/3 doz. Art Silk Stockinette Pants, 9d. lb. Ladies' Fleecy-lined Mackintoshes, 4/11 each. Our free catalogue is a treasure full of bargains. Sample Bales, 21/-. Satisfaction or money returned under *John Bull* guarantee.—Wolfson, 48 Desk, Thomas Street, Manchester.

FREE ILLUSTRATED LIST for dealers and Beginners for keen lines in Drapery, Hosiery, Haberdashery (wholesale only). — Levy Bros., Dept. A., 39, Houndsditch, London, E.C.3.

At CHEAPEST Wholesale Warehouse, Drapery, Hosiery, etc. How to start a business with £2. Free Cat. from H. Marks, 1, Houndsditch, E.C.3.

AGENCIES, CLUBS.

EARN £2 to £5 weekly. Run Drapery Club amongst friends. No outlay. Particulars and cat. free.—Carlisle Mills, Dept. 11, Birstall, Leeds.

MAKE A GOOD LIVING selling Men's Genuine 2/6 Ties at 1/-. Send 1/3 for sample and details.—Brook & Son, Silsden, Yorks.

THOUSAND AGENTS WANTED.—BIG COMMISSION. No expense. FREE WATCH OR HANDBAG to new Agents. Write now for particulars. J. B. TATTERSALL, 7, BOAR LANE, LEEDS.

AGENTS! BIG MONEY introducing Real Indian MANGO, most delicious, healthful fruit. Highly approved. NO COMPETITION. Liberal sample, 2/6 post paid. Interesting proposition free from Virchand Panachand & Co., Masjid Bunder, Bombay 3, India.

FREE. Fill in the coupon in the JOHN NOBLE advt. on page 30 for Bargain Catalogue and full particulars of their IDEAL CLUB scheme, for which organisers are wanted immediately. Help yourself and your friends by investigating now and sending the coupon at once for the monster 232-page Bargain Guide. Testimonials, etc.

EMPLOYMENT.

MOTOR DRIVERS. — COMMERCIAL and PRIVATE positions. The finest PRACTICAL training to standard R.A.C. Certificate at the lowest inclusive fee. Day or evening. FREE employment Dept. Call (9-7) or write. THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF MOTORING, LTD., 5, COVENTRY ST., PICCADILLY CIRCUS, W.1. (Corner Rupert St., next Lyons' Corner House.)

POLICE FORCE. Men wanted over 5 ft. 9 in. (aged 19-27). Commence about £3 10s. per week.—Free details of entrance Exam. from B.T.I., 293, Oxford Street, W.1.

BUY Hosiery w'sale to sell again; over 60% profit, any quantity. Cat. Free.—Empire Hosiery Co., Empire House, St. Martin's-le-Grand, E.C.1.

BUSINESS SERVICES, ETC.

"DO YOU ADVERTISE?" Advertisement inserted in 50 Provincial newspapers or London and Suburban, 7/10. Welsh, 3/8. Large or small Mail Order Campaign Experts. Advice free. Prospectus.—Central Press (Dept. 60), 323, High Holborn, London, W.C.1. 'Phone: Chancery 8113.

PRINTING.—10,000 Handbills or Billheads at 2/9 per 1,000. Samples of printing for all trades sent for 3d. postage. Meads, Room 60, Sandy, Beds.

BARGAIN SALES.

WALLPAPERS DIRECT from 2½d. per roll. Send for patterns post free.—West Riding Wallpaper Co., 52, Trinity Street, Leeds.

KNITTING WOOL BUNDLES, 1¼ lb. 4/6, for Socks, etc. White, Grey, Navy, 3/4 lb., post free. Patts. Wools, Serges, Tweeds.—Egerton Burnetts, W.B. Warehouse, Wellington, Som.

A1 NOVELTIES for Dances, Hats, Balloons, Mickey Mouse Novs., Mus. Inst., etc.—List J.B. 1285 free.—Dudley's, 415, Holloway Road, N.7.

"CAPTAIN" Razor Blades, Sheffield made, 1/- dozen. Several Sole Agencies open.—Dominion Steel Corporation, Ltd., Queen's Road, Sheffield.

CARNIVAL and Party Novelties, Balloons, Decorations, etc. Send for free list to-day.—"Uneedus," Arundel Street, Portsmouth.

HAVE you had a copy of DRAGE'S wonderful Christmas Gift Catalogue? Write to Drage's, Ltd., 73-77, Oxford Street, London, W.1, mentioning *John Bull*, and a copy will be sent to you.

PAY CASH AND SAVE POUNDS.
We do Men's Navy Melton Overcoats, 20/-. Guaranteed all British.—SURREY SUPPLY Co., 26, Claremont Road, Surbiton.

A CARNIVAL Hat, Novelty, Joke, Fancy Dress and Balloon. Ill. List J.B. Free.—Becks, British Carnival Novelties, Cross Street, London, N.1.

SMALL ADVTS. WORTH WATCHING

Prepaid Rate: 10s. per line averaging six words, Minimum Charge 30s.

Advertisements must be received not later than Friday for the following Thursday's issue.

Address: The Advertisement Manager, "John Bull," 57-59, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

DANCE Novelties, Hats, etc. Monster Parcel, 10/- or £1. List free.—Novelty Supply Stores (Dept. 19), 223, Mile End Road, London, E.1.

A MAN'S GIFT. Nothing could be better suggested than "TREMOLA" SHIRTS and PYJAMAS. There are numerous and very tasteful designs at prices that are very moderate. If any difficulty in obtaining, write to the manufacturers, 19, Watling Street, London, E.C.4.

FREE. Get your boy to write for the wonderful new MECCANO BOOK, profusely illustrated, and describing famous engineering feats. A copy can be secured post free in return for names and addresses of three of his chums.—Address: Meccano, Ltd. (Dep. 20), Old Swan, Liverpool.

MUSICAL.

GRAMOPHONE SALE.—Motors, Tonearms, Soundboxes, Horns, Amplifiers, Gramophones and Cabinets at gift prices. Catalogue free.—J. B. Burt, 185, High St., Deptford, Ldn., S.E.8.

20/- Deposit secures your new Saxophone, Piano-Accordeon, Clarinet, Bass Drum, Bal. wkly. State Instrument. Hessy's, 18-20, Manchester St., L'pool.

GRAMO'S.—Make one ½ price. Instructions, drawings, 64-p. ctlg. 3d. Portable 15/6. Motors 7/6. List free.—Regentbull, 120, Old St., London.

PIANO-Accordions, Guitars, Concertinas, Mandolins, Saxophones, Banjos, Ukuleles, Gramos, Jazz. Terms.—Vickers, Royal Hill, Greenwich.

"John Bull" Guarantee.

EVERY article advertised in "John Bull" carries with it a "money-back" guarantee:—

All foods, food products, toilet preparations, medicines and drugs, and other articles capable of a laboratory test which have been approved by our experts are marked— In the case of medicines and drugs we guarantee that if they are taken or applied according to the directions they will have no injurious effects.

Naturally this guarantee applies only to manufactured articles, but every care is taken to satisfy ourselves as to the bona-fides of all advertisements in "John Bull." Any complaint must reach us within one month from the appearance of the advertisement in "John Bull," and in the case of dispute the decision of our Managing Director shall be final.

***ODHAMS PRESS LIMITED*, Proprietors of "John Bull."**

Turn to Pages 21, 23 and 25.

3 separate prizes of £20 must be won in a free, simple and fascinating Competition

£1,100 Awarded in "John Bull's" Crossword Competition No. 144.

In the above Competition, correct solutions were received from the following four competitors, who share the £1,000 offered. To each of them, subject to the conditions of the Competition, a cheque for £250 will be awarded.

E. Edmunds, 42, King St., Abertridwr; T. Hall, Reeds-beck, Woodhall Spa; E. Mason, 7, Springfield Terrace, Elburton, S. Devon; J. Thomas, 54 Foundry Lane, Southampton.

Any other entrant who claims to have sent a solution eligible for a share of this prize must demand a scrutiny by First Post, Tuesday, January 5th, 1932, sending £1 Scrutiny Fee, copy of solutions and Postal Order number. Envelope to be registered, marked "Scrutiny" and addressed to the Competition Editor of "John Bull."

No scrutiny can be undertaken in connection with the Award of £100 to Runners-up. This prize has been divided between the following 30 competitors from whom we received solutions containing one error and who will each receive £3 6s. 8d.

Benson, Mrs. A., 20, Larkhill St., Preston, Lancs; Bowler Mrs. G., 74, Belper Lane, Belper, Derby; Calland, Mrs. W., 37, Eastbourne Rd., Southport; Clark, M., 47, Beresford Rd., Northfleet, Kent; Collins, A., 12, Mindrum Tce., Walker, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Crowe, M/s J., Dodbank, Whitfield, Northumberland; Dale, M/s F., 11, Goods Yard, Willington, Co. Durham; Duddles, G., 13, Lindum Rd., Lincoln; Earle, C. P., Sunnycot, Folly Lane, Hereford; Edmunds, A. C., 23, Farnboro' Ave., Walthamstow, E.17; Evans, Miss A., 425, Walton Breck Rd., Anfield, Liverpool; Fellows, E., 2, Bath Buildings, Rye, Sussex; Fogwill, M. I., Gollinsynes, Hemyock, Devon; Gale E. J., "Woodville," Lysgate Villas, Portishead, Bristol; Graham, H., 126, Beaconsfield Villas, Brighton; Hastings, R., 218, West Parade, Lincoln; Kersey, M/s A., Boutne Barn, West Bergholt, Essex; Legg, J., 17A, Queensmill Rd., Fulham, S.W.6; Lloyd, W., 242, Bath Rd., Bristol; Marker, Mrs., 5, Homefield Cotts., Babbacombe, Torquay; Morris, O., Ty-Mawr, Gallt-y-Toel, Deiniolen, Caernarvon; Pinnegar, W., Kingswood, Wotton-U-Edge, Glos.; Poynter, Mrs. C., Withybed Cres., Tadworth, Surrey; Rabbitt, V., 28, Scarboro' St., Irthlingborough; Ramsden, Mrs. H., 181, Rochdale Rd., Royton, Lancs; Trawford, H. C., 91, Corporation Ave., Llanerch, Llanelly; Vigor, H. R., Woodside Bungalow, Burwash, Sussex; Walden, T. H., Council Houses, Sedgeford, King's Lynn; Williams, C., 37, Shelton New Rd., Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent; Wood, F., 56, Marlborough Rd., Dorking, Surrey.

Another Splendid X-Word with a First Prize of £500 and £50 to be divided between the runners-up appears on page 28. In addition to these prizes there is an extra award of a £1 New Year Bonus to every winner in this contest. Try your skill now!

MARKETING BY POST.

TEA.—Buy British. Wholesale. Delicious specially blended Indian and Ceylon Tea only. Highly recommended. 10 lb. 10/-, 4 lb. 4/8, 5/-, 6/-, 7/-. Carr. paid. Special prices large quantities. —Portway Tea Co., 72, Portway, London, E.15.

DRESS.

BABY'S BEAUTIFUL LONG CLOTHES. 30/-. 75 Home-made garments. Worth £5. Handsome Shawl, Robes, Day Gowns, Flannels, Terry Napkins, Vests, Barras, Warm Nightdes, Wool Coats, etc. Everything complete and ready for use. Purchasers state "That materials alone would cost them more." Expectant Mothers, send 2/- for parcel on appro. (bal. cash or terms).—Mrs. J. HOWARD, 66, DOVER RD., PORTSMOUTH.

WIRELESS.

FREE CIRCUITS of new 2, 3 and 4-valve sets, complete with lists of necessary components sent post free.—YOUNG'S (GLASGOW), LTD., 40, STOCKWELL STREET, GLASGOW.

OAK RADIO CABINETS, nicely polished, height 36 in., hinged tops, loose backs; panel 14 x 7, 45/-, cash with order. Carriage paid.—Daventry Works, Charlotte Mews, Hull.

READERS' attention is drawn to the advt. on page 19 of BRITANNIA BATTERIES, LTD., manufacturers of PERTRIX Super-Life Dry Batteries and Accumulators. More than 40 years' experience is put into the manufacture of these excellent aids to perfect radio reception. Readers will be certain of getting the best results during Christmas festivities, and ensure perfect performance by using these excellent batteries. All good dealers sell "PERTRIX."

FREEMANS CASH OR CREDIT

CELEBRATED SPARE TIME AGENCY

BOOTS, Gent's and Ladies' Clothing, Suits, Coats, Costumes and Underwear, Carpets, Linos, Drapery, Gramophones, Bicycles, Jewellery, Watches, Clocks, China, Toys, Baby Carriages, etc.

Men in regular employment appointed as Agents.

Largest stock in the trade. Liberal supply of samples. Highest Commission Paid. *Illustrated Coloured Catalogues.*

NO OUTLAY. ALL PROFIT.
Enquiries for Agency Invited.

LAVENDER HILL, LONDON.

MEDICAL, CURATIVE.

WORMS CURED.—Arlico Brand Worm Tablets are a Specialist's Positive and Permanent Cure. They cure most violent cases by calmly removing the very cause of the worm's existence. No fasting, no dieting, no interference with daily habits. Send 1/6 for generous supply, or 1½d. stamp for Free Pamphlet.—Ridyard Tablet Co., 34-36, Codnor, Derby.

DON'T WEAR A TRUSS. Use Brooks' Rupture Appliance. New discovery. Wonderful; no lumpy pads, no springs; durable, cheap. Binds and draws parts together quickly. Sent on trial. Catalogue free.—Address, Brooks' Appliance Co., Ltd. (482a), 80, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

HOW TO STOP SMOKING.—Genuine remedy, proved by testimonials. — Write, The Stanley Institute (J.B.), 21, Warwick Lane, E.C.4.

BLADDER Weakness, Kidney Trouble, etc., cured by Parker's Fluid Remedy, 1/3, 3/-. Boots', etc., or Parker's Remedy, Ltd., Liverpool. Sbl. 3d.

BRONCHITIS, Asthma, Catarrh, Coughs, Colds. HERBAL BEANS give instant relief. Large Box (over 100 Beans), 1/3. Post Free.—Samp. 3d. Health Stores, Euston Rd., Morecambe.

WHOOPING COUGH.—Vapo-Cresolene allays irritation, quickly relieves cough and breathing difficulty. Free Booklet No. 46L from Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., LONDON, E.C.3.

PILES or Hæmorrhoids. Complete treatment, Pile Tablets 1/3 and 2/3. Ointment, 1/3, 2/-. No. 1 Suppositories, 2/6; No. 2 Suppositories (special for internal bleeding), 2/6. Safe effective, reliable. Allay the irritation in a few days. —McGuffie's, Chemists, Castle Street, Liverpool.

BLUSHING, NERVOUSNESS. — Don't waste money on cheap quack remedies. Send for free book on the cure of Self-Consciousness.—Mr. Rivers (J.B.87), 40, Lamb's Conduit St., W.C.1.

WOULD you like a trial bottle of "WINCARNIS" free? If readers would prefer to try a couple of glasses of this excellent Tonic Wine, send 6d. in stamps to cover postage for a small trial bottle, to Coleman & Co., Ltd., Dept. 72, Wincarnis Works, Norwich.

SUFFERERS from Skin Diseases are offered a free sample (and a free booklet) of a new treatment advertised by the NEW ERA TREATMENT CO., LTD., on page 28.

WANTED TO PURCHASE.

BEST PRICES paid for Jewellery, Diamonds, Platinum, Old Gold and Silver, Antiques, Dental Plates (not Vulcanite), Valuable Property, etc. Nothing too large nor too small. Cash per return. Bentley & Co., 10, New Bond St., London, W.1.

ANY kind old gold, silver, jewellery, diamonds, old false teeth, platinum scrap bought. Highest cash by return.—Bell's, Upperhead Rd., Leeds.

MISCELLANEOUS.

DUKE'S JELLIED ALMONDS.
The Favourite Party Sweet.
Ask your Sweet Shop.

THIS week, *John Bull* offers £60 in cash in a simple competition which appears on pages 21, 23 and 25. Full details are given on each page, for which three separate prizes of £20 must be won. Why not make it a fireside game and get all the family to help? Note closing date: January 9, 1932, and send in your entries now.

READERS are invited to write for the FREE CATALOGUE of Quality Gifts offered in exchange for coupons from "PARK DRIVE." 10 for 6d., Plain or Cork-tipped, CIGARETTES. Send a postcard now, while you think of it, and be sure to mention *John Bull* when writing. Address: Gift Dept., Gallaher, Ltd., Virginia House, 67, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C.1.

HAVE you had the latest "BLACK CAT" new British Gift List? You can obtain a copy FREE if you mention this paper. Write to Black Cat, Gifts Dept., Arcadia Works, Hampstead Road, London, N.W.1.

£10 10s. FOR A SLOGAN! This is offered by the N.S.P.C.C. on page 24. Send in as many entries as you like, but each must be accompanied by a P.O. for 1s., which will assist crippled, deformed and ailing children to obtain the best medical and surgical treatment.

FREE SAMPLES of "CUTICURA" Preparations will be sent to readers mentioning this paper if they write to F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 31, Banner Street, London, E.C.1.

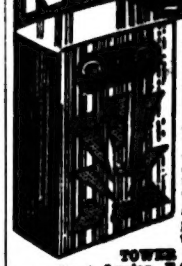
ARE YOU A MOM? The Most Cheery Order of Merrythoughts invites you to become a member of this institution to radiate happiness and also to support such charities as Pearson's Fresh Air Fund. Write for free Booklet, mentioning *John Bull*, to Most Cheery Order of Merrythoughts, 34, Chronicle House, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. For 5/- you can obtain life membership. See advt. on page 29.

WRITE to ROWNTREE'S, Gift Dept., H.8, York, for booklet showing a wonderful range of Free Gifts that can be secured in exchange for coupons from ROWNTREE'S COCOA and JELLIES.

EVERY parent who has a boy or who is interested in a boy should write to Meccano, Dept. A.P., Liverpool, for a copy of the HORNBY BOOK OF TRAINS and Catalogue, obtainable post free for 4½d. in stamps.

MESSRS. ALFRED BIRD & SONS, LTD., the well-known makers of BIRD'S CUSTARD, BIRD'S BLANCMANGE, etc., have bought from the publishers a large number of copies of the "Best Way" book of simple Recipes, and although the book is sold at 6d., they will be pleased to send a copy free and post free to any reader of *John Bull* who writes to the firm, mentioning this paper. The book is profusely illustrated in photogravure, and contains some delicious festive season dishes of the right kind for the average family.

NOW THE NEW-THREE ONLY £5 10



GUARANTEED TO RECEIVE UP TO ONE THOUSAND MILES. Guaranteed against mechanical fault for 12 months. British. Also one week's free trial allowed to guarantee against deception in this advertisement. Handsome Polished Oak Case, with everything inside, including the three valves, built-in Loud Speaker, first-class British Batteries, and double-capacity accumulator. Circuit embodies both Short and Long Wave Tuning. Immediate deliveries available. Send for folder "B" for further particulars, and Deferred Payment terms, if required.

TOWER ROYAL RADIO CO., Tower Royal, Cannon Street, London, E.C.4. *Trade Enquiries Invited.*

NEW YEAR'S FREE GIFT

of a Cottage Wall Clock to all Cash Customers.

THE WORLD'S BEST WATCH

AT BEST VALUE EVER GIVEN — 1/- DOWN — YOU WILL BE PLEASED

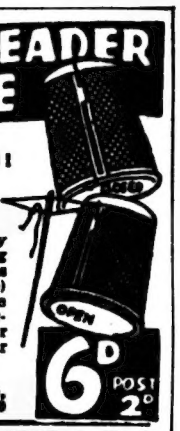
LADY'S LEVER WRISTLET

Elegant cushion shape, luminous dial, unbreakable face, 7 plate gilt movement, straight regulator. A CHARMING PRESENT. CASH PRICE 17/6, or 2/- weekly for 9 weeks (19/- in all). GENT'S MODEL same price. Written guarantee with each Watch. Money returned if not satisfied. Note our offer as above.

(A) EXPRESS MAIL ORDER CO. (*for Satisfaction*), 250a, Station Road, Harrow, Middx.

EVERY OFFER COVERED BY MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE ON PAGE 2

Combined NEEDLE THREADER and THIMBLE

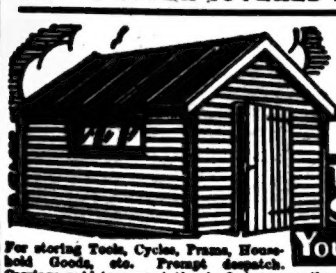


A WOMAN'S INVENTION!

NO more fumbling with needle and cotton, no more eyestrain. This clever device is a thimble and needle-threader combined. Instantly threads smallest ordinary or sewing machine needle. Threader slides back into socket (side of thimble) when not wanted. A boon to those with weak sight, and a real time-saver and practical necessity for every housewife. 6d., post 2d., or 3 for 1/6 POST FREE.

682, Wm. PENN (Dept. 62), HOLLOWAY ROAD, LONDON, N.19

6D POST 2D



FROM 5/7 Per Month DELIVERED ON FIRST PAYMENT

THAT SHED You Need

For storing Tools, Cycles, Frame, Household Goods, etc. Prompt despatch. Carriage paid to your station in 6 strong, easily erected sections 5/8-in. planed, moulded, rebated weatherboards. Roofing Felt supplied. Floors extra. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Long	Wide	High	Cash	or 6 Payments	or 12
6 ft. x 4½ ft.	..	6 ft.	£2 1 0	10/8	5/7
8 ft. x 6 ft.	..	6½ ft.	£4 11 0	18/11	8/4
10 ft. x 7½ ft.	..	6½ ft.	£6 7 6	22/4	11/6

BIG CATALOGUE of Portable Buildings Free. F. & H. SUTCLIFFE, LTD., 82, Wood Top, Ribbon Bridge, Yorks. London Showrooms, 60-62, Oxford St.

FULL LENGTH BED CHAIR with SPRING SEATS 2/6

ONLY send 2/6 and we deliver to your address this handsome Bed-Chair with SPRING SEAT. 12 further weekly payments of 2/6 complete purchase. SOLID OAK FRAMES polished rich nut brown, 2 velvet cord cushions, any colour, 2 seat cushions reversible. Leg rest detachable and very useful as fireside seat (see illus. 4). Our patent spring seats ensure comfort with permanent springing. Carr. Free Rail. P.O.'s only. CASH PRICE 30/-

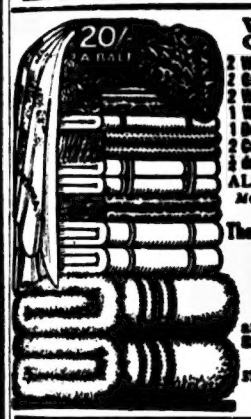
NORTH BUCKS TRADING Co. Ltd. 56 Shaftesbury Av., Piccadilly Circus, London, W.1.

NERVOUS FEARS

A Remarkably Interesting Book on Nervous Disorders Given FREE to All Sufferers!

Every nerve sufferer should send at once for a copy of my absorbingly interesting book which describes a simple, inexpensive home treatment for Self-consciousness, Blushing, Depression, Worry, Insomnia, Lassitude, Weak Nerves, Morbid Fears, and similar nervous disorders. The Rivers Treatment has achieved world-wide success, and is covered by a definite Guarantee of genuineness and efficiency. A copy of this wonderful book, together with some of the most remarkable testimonials ever published, will be sent in a plain sealed envelope, without charge or obligation, to any sufferer. Write NOW and learn how to conquer your nervousness before it conquers you.

HENRY J. RIVERS (Book Dept. J.B.85), 40, Lamb's Conduit Street, London, W.C.1



Wadded DOWN QUILTS FREE.

2 White Woolly Blankets	90 x 70
2 Good Cotton Sheets	90 x 70
2 White Pillow Slips	30 x 18
1 White Bolster Case	58 x 18
1 Beautiful Bedspread	80 x 60
2 Coloured Turkish Towels	
½ doz. Dainty Handkerchiefs	

ALL DOUBLE BED SIZE. *Money back if not satisfied.*

The Lot 20/- Carr. Free. Cash or C.O.D. *Immediate Delivery.*

A Handsome Wadded DOWN QUILT and a pair of Artificial Silk Stockings sent free with each Sale.

STANDARD (BURMAH), Ltd., Dept. E.6, 191 Princess Street, Manchester.

GREAT FREE CASH GIFT SCHEME

OPEN TO ALL | NOTHING TO PAY | NO ENTRANCE FEE

SEND FOR PARTICULARS TO-DAY OF THIS AMAZING CASH OFFER. YOU ARE UNDER NO OBLIGATION WHATEVER & NOTHING TO PAY.

ALSO ANY OF — — THESE FREE

The above articles or any of the 1,200 lots shown in our catalogues can be had ABSOLUTELY FREE, if preferred to ACTUAL CASH, when participating in the £5,000 which we are offering for advertising our goods—Catalogue sent free to choose from.

DON'T DELAY SEND TO-DAY GET YOUR SHARE

CITY & PROVINCIAL STORES (P.O. Box 43) Dept. J.B.11 ATLANTIC MILLS, MANCHESTER.

WEATHER RESISTING

To advertise our Catalogue, we offer you a smart rubber soled moulded shoe (Black or Tan) at the advertising price of 6/3, post 9d. To render waterproof, the stout rubber sole is moulded to the upper, making it impossible for the severest weather to penetrate. We guarantee months of hard service. Send for a pair now. Recommended for mechanics, country wear, golf, warehouse or smart City wear.

6/3 Sizes 6 to 11. Post on 1 or 2 pairs 9d., or C.O.D. *Money Back Guarantee*

NUTTALL, 1 GOODMAYES, ILFORD

HIDE GAUNTLETS

Overall length 15 *inches*

Of pliable nut brown stout hide, specially treated to render absolutely waterproof. Cut in one piece, fingers gusseted and linen lining. These splendid Gloves are well-nigh indestructible and will give endless wear. Postage 6d. 3/6

Money-back Guarantee.

Take advantage of these surplus Government Military Gauntlet Gloves now, as they are an absolute bargain and undoubtedly cost treble our price to produce. Full Men's size only.

NUTTALL, 1, GOODMAYES, ILFORD.

SAVE YOUR HANDS AND YOUR TIME. THE IDEAL POTATO PEELER.

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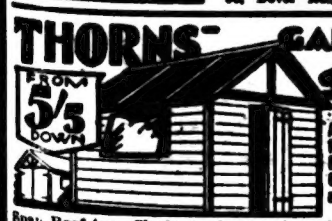

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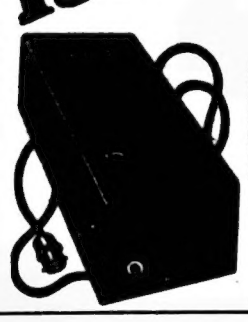

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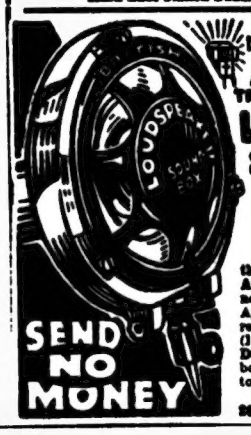

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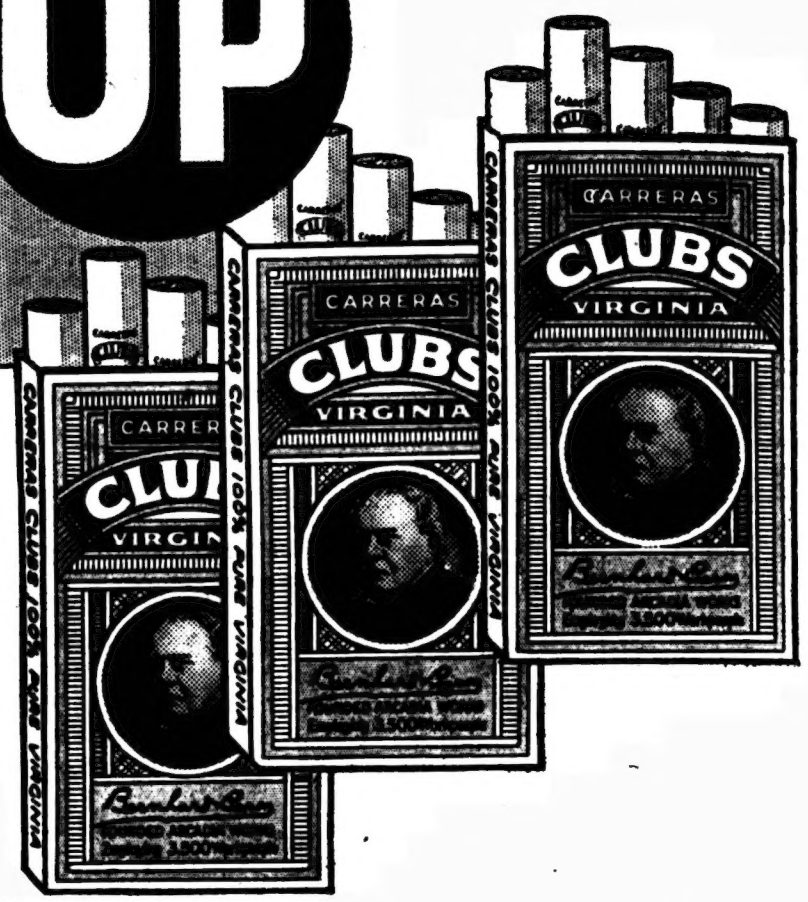

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THURSDAY,
for Week ending Saturday, Dec. 26, 1931. Twopence.
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"If you see it in 'John Bull,' it is so"

THERE will be few to regret the passing of 1931. It has been one of the lean years in the world's history; a year of international anxiety and uncertainty, with stagnant trade amid bountiful supplies.

And yet, in wishing all our readers a happy and prosperous New Year, we sincerely believe that 1932 will mark the beginning of a much brighter period.

This country has proved time and again its unequalled staying power. We are never beaten, because we refuse to admit defeat. And the world has a wholesome respect for the way we can take hard knocks and come up smiling.

The lesson

The great lesson of 1931 has been that nations, like men, cannot live to themselves alone. None can afford to see its neighbour go to the wall.

The world is suffering from these major ills, war debts, ruinous armaments, and a defective system of exchange.

In 1932 we believe that Britain will lead the way to a new and sane conception of world co-operation.

Winston's sergeant

Questions continue to be asked about Winston Churchill's Scotland Yard bodyguard. So far Scotland Yard refuses to say whether or not the sergeant of the Special Branch who accompanied Winston to New York did so at the expense of British ratepayers.

We have no objection to Mr. Churchill being specially protected if he thinks there is any need for it; but why the cost should come out of the ratepayers' pockets is obscure.

* * *

And even if Mr. Churchill himself said to have a sergeant all to himself, does it not suggest that the Special Branch is overstaffed, and might be made the subject of a little of the economy that is so popular just now?

Chance for the Church

Here is a fine chance for one of the big leaders of the Church—the Bishop of London or Dean Inge.

Let him close with General Higgins' offer of the great Salvationist hall at Clapton, which holds over 3,000 people, for a monster Church service.

Then the bigots and intolerants who are trying to raise trouble because the Dean of Canterbury lent the cathedral to General Higgins for a big rally of Salvationists would be effectually snubbed.

And they deserve to be. Their criticism reminds one of the dark days of persecution, and won't do the Church any good.

Very mean test

If a sufficient number of cases are obtained the Derby council of the British Legion will take up the complaints of ex-Service men who have been penalised by the Means Test.

One case is that of a fifty per cent. disabled man who needs at least half of his £1 pension for his special diet of fish and milk. His benefit has been cut by 15s. 3d., though he has a wife and child.

Other branches of the Legion should follow Derby's example, so that

Still Coming Up Smiling!

A Snub for the Bigots

national, rather than local, action might be taken.

An inquiry is to be made into the treatment of out-patients at London hospitals.

A year old

When are we to have the final report of the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance?

Presented an interim report

Six months ago Judge Holman Gregory and his colleagues presented an interim report which suggested certain emergency measures. Since then nobody has been much concerned about the Commission and its task.

Yet the whole system of unemployment insurance requires overhauling and extending. This important inquiry should not be allowed to slip into the background.

The land again

Another big land ramp is coming.

Wealthy syndicates are buying land in all parts of the country, hoping to sell it soon at vastly increased prices. One reason is the suspension of the Land Values Tax; the other is the Wheat Quota.

Since the farmer is to get much more for his wheat the landlord will be able to put up his rent, knowing that he can afford to pay.

What will the Government do about this?

His own judge

The Minister of Transport may be an excellent judge, but it would be better if he relegated some of his duties to an independent tribunal.

He is the only "court of appeal" against decisions by Traffic Commissioners. Since they act under his general instructions it is hardly possible for him to be completely disinterested in adjudicating on appeals.

Such functions are outside the proper sphere of a Minister.

We obtain justice

Serjeant George Bevington, of the Walsall Police, whose disgraceful conduct in connection with the wrongful arrest of an innocent man we recently exposed, demanding a fuller inquiry into the facts, has just been ordered to resign by the Walsall Watch Committee.

Justice has thus been vindicated, and we are glad to know that our exposure has been followed by such swift action.

Russian debts

There will be important developments shortly in Anglo-Soviet debt negotiations.

Russia has refused to make any offer which would provide a reasonable ground of settlement, and the Joint Committee that has been discussing the question for fifteen months will probably have to abandon its task.

An awkward complication is that the agreement signed by Mr. Henderson and M. Dovgalevsky expressly ordered that the matter should be settled by negotiation. It will be interesting to see how the Government will overcome this difficulty.

Double-edged saw

The backwash of Mr. Runciman's tariffs is already sweeping men out of jobs.

Work at the docks has decreased, and men who were employed in ships and warehouses have been discharged. Now Mr. Cramp, the railwaymen's leader, is receiving reports that less traffic is coming out of the ports to the railways. So railwaymen, too, may suffer.

Poisoned earth

Recent high mortality among livestock may at last lead to an investigation of the undoubted poisoning of English soil during recent years.

Foreign bulbs and anti-pest sprays are suspected causes. It is not impossible that the Pace mystery and recent fatalities in another Forest of Dean family might be explained in this way.

Investigation should be made at once.

Hospital hardships

An inquiry is to be made into the treatment of out-patients at London hospitals.

Speed the decision, Mr. Chairman

Though the hospital staffs render devoted service to the patients, there are complaints of overcrowding and unreasonable delay, which could probably be remedied by better organisation.

The members of the Committee, which is under the chairmanship of Lord Onslow, are being chosen by the Prince of Wales on behalf of King Edward's Hospital Fund. The inquiry is certainly overdue.

Road victims

Mr Turton, the M.P. for Thirsk, will put a proposal before Parliament when it reassembles which should please the hospitals.

He suggests that the fee for a driving licence should be increased by two shillings, which would be paid to a central fund. From this fund donations could be made to the hospitals for the maintenance of the victims of road accidents where the motorist does not make full payment.

We have already drawn attention to such cases, but we do not think that Mr. Turton's proposal is quite fair, since motorists are already one of the most highly taxed classes of the community.

Listen in to Our Concert
Next Sunday and Win £500

NEXT Sunday evening, December 27, at ten-thirty—after the B.B.C. has closed down—we invite all our readers to tune in to Radio Paris and listen to the JOHN BULL concert—the first wireless entertainment of its kind ever organised by a British newspaper.

It is easy enough to take advantage of this "extension of hours." If you can get Daventry on your set, you can get Radio Paris. Just tune to a slightly higher reading than Daventry and then settle down to enjoy a wonderful musical programme with an opportunity to win a prize of £500.

JOHN BULL has arranged for the world-famous entertainers Flotsam and Jetsam to broadcast in person to introduce its first wireless concert next Sunday.

Further, JOHN BULL concerts will be broadcast from Radio Paris every Sunday evening at the same time until further notice. Many star performers are now being engaged to take part.

Once readers have tuned in they certainly won't want to switch off until they have heard the last note of a wonderful programme of music and song. Ten gramophone numbers—each one a "winner" in its own class—will be broadcast, and every listener is invited to judge these numbers and then place them in their order of entertainment value to win the special prize of £500 which we are offering.

You will find full particulars of this thrilling new departure in wireless entertainment on page 14. Readers are advised to make sure in advance that they can tune in to Radio Paris. That done, JOHN BULL guarantees to provide them all with a wonderful hour's entertainment next Sunday evening. Make a careful note of the date and the time, and ask your friends to come, too!

"IF YOU SEE IT—"—(Continued)

Justice squints

A West Hartlepool labourer approached a detective in Derby one night and asked if he was on the right road to the north. The detective took him to the police station and charged him with wandering without visible means of subsistence, though the man had nearly four shillings in his pocket.

The magistrates discharged him on the condition that he left the town.

It is curious that a man who was leaving Derby should be made to remain in it and then made to go out of it. Justice may not be blind in Derby, but she seems to have squinted in this case.

Unearned pensions

In its efforts to economise the Treasury seems to have overlooked the Receivers-General of the Duchies of Cornwall and Lancaster.

The former draws over £16,000 a year as compensation for the loss of duties on the coinage of tin. The other gentleman gets £800 in lieu of a similar ancient right.

These absurd privileges should be abolished.

A sleepy subject

A Government committee collecting information about M.P.s between 1264 and 1832 has not yet reported, though it has been sitting for nearly three years. This senseless research is a waste of public money and should be stopped immediately.

Christian at last

We recently commented on the militaristic attitude of the Church during the war. We are glad to see that for the first time a committee of international Christian organisations is to be represented at Geneva and will express its opinion at the forthcoming Disarmament Conference.

This move is long overdue.

Brave mourners

While a funeral procession was passing over a bridge at Maesteg, Wales, a little girl fell into the river. Though dangerous currents sweep under the bridge, half a dozen of the mourners jumped in after the child, who was brought to safety.

But for their heroism there might easily have been a second funeral.

Land of promise

Experts declare that enough oil could be extracted from the shale beds at Kilve, Somerset, to supply Britain's requirements for a very long time. The ground is so rich that picnickers often find the pebbles burning about their fires.

The economic possibilities of this gift of Nature should be investigated.

Generous Miners

All the workers in a big colliery in the Swansea Valley agreed to a voluntary levy of sixpence each to brighten the Christmas of Dr. Barnardo waifs.

A fresh instance of the proverbial unselfishness of miners.

Hard-baked

When a girl of twenty was charged with forging cheques at Bakewell, Derbyshire, it was stated that she kept house for her step-father and brother, who each allowed her a shilling a week to clothe herself and her two-year-old child and to look after three younger children.

The police did not press the charge. The magistrates, with equal charity, bound her over and rebuked the step-father. We hope he will take the censure to heart.

Police pensioners

Many unemployed men are embittered when they see a police pensioner getting three, four, or five pounds a week in a regular job. But a Manchester City Councillor, an ex-policeman with ten children, asks if he is to be debarred from earning extra to support such a big family.

We sympathise with Councillor Cathcart. But in many cases the extra money earned by retired policemen is just pocket-money.

Men without any sort of income should not be deprived of jobs by those with substantial pensions.

The food ramp

One hundred and fifty tons of sprats which arrived at Wivenhoe, Essex, had to be dumped at sixpence a bushel as manure owing to the lack of buyers. Yet in most places the housewife pays sixpence a pound for this fish.

Sir Allan Powell, Chairman, Food Council

Soles can be bought in the West End of London for the same price, but in poorer districts they fetch more than twice as much.

When will the Food Council be given power to stop this scandal?

Sheep and shepherds

An Act which comes into force on New Year's Day gives parishioners a voice in the choice of their pastor instead of leaving them, as now, at the mercy of anyone who cares to purchase the right of a living.

Perhaps we shall have fewer cases in future of undignified brawls caused by mutual antagonism between parsons and their flocks.

Father's heavy hand

A Liverpool man, John McInerney, saw his sixteen-year-old daughter in the company of a boy at ten o'clock at night. He dragged her into the house and pounded her with his fists so violently that a bone in the child's head was fractured.

The magistrate, however, dismissed the case. We are not surprised that the prosecuting solicitor walked out of the court in disgust.

Bombs in dustbins

A fully-charged aerial torpedo has been found in a Manchester dust destructor. If it had gone into the incinerator many workmen might have been killed.

Other cases have been known of such deadly bombs being thrown into dustbins. We appeal to all who possess such deadly war relics to have them rendered harmless immediately. The police will gladly give their assistance.

Trial by hearsay

When a man was charged at Newcastle with a motoring offence, the constable giving evidence admitted that he had never seen him before, but that someone must have given him the accused man's name.

The case was dismissed. It should never have been brought. There have been too many complaints about slipshod police methods of late.

They climbed down

The Aldershot Council recently decided to re-number the houses on its estate and asked the tenants to pay the cost. The tenants refused, and the Town Clerk decided that they were justified.

Householders in other parts of the country might remember this.

More street robots

It is likely that 1,400 more automatic traffic lights will be erected throughout the country. This is a good idea, since a single automatic signal may save £600 a year in police costs.

But some of those now in operation are of foreign make. We hope the new Robots will be as British as the Roberts they displace.

Tumbledown schools

Three ceiling collapses have occurred recently in North-East elementary schools. The latest, at Burnopfield, injured four children, while others were temporarily blinded by the falling lime.

These accidents might have serious consequences. A more frequent inspection of school premises seems to be called for.

Rats in mines

A case was recently mentioned of a man who was killed and devoured by starving rats in a coal-mine that had been closed for some time.

This must, of course, be a unique occurrence, but pit ponies are frequently worried by the pests. The rat plague in mines will exist so long as ponies are used underground. Electric haulage is profitably used in many pits. Why not more?

The gun menace

A few days ago a policeman noticed a gun protruding from the coat of a sixteen-year-old boy. The boy was charged with not having a licence, and it was revealed that he had previously been fined £2 for wounding a pigeon.

For this fresh offence he was fined only £1. The real scandal is that lads of this age are allowed to obtain guns and cartridges.

An artful dodger

A representative of the National Tea Company, of Hull, called on a Liverpool housewife and offered her a bonus of £1 if she bought a pound of tea from him for three shillings and a second pound from her grocer within a fortnight.

He left a "Cash Bond" from James Bell and Sons, 9, Spring Street, Hull, guaranteeing the bonus, but the woman was unable to buy the brand from her grocer and the agent has not called again.

Readers will remember that this dodge has often been exposed in JOHN BULL.

Too smart

Excess of zeal has cost P.C. Bowman, of the Lancashire County Constabulary, over £8 in damages.

Entering a public-house at Newcastle-under-Lyme, where drinking was taking place after hours, he snatched a glass from an old man with such force that four of the man's teeth were broken and five splintered.

This should receive the attention of the policeman's superiors.

Bird of passage

A reader who ordered pullets from the Munro Poultry Farm, Manchester, was supplied with cockerels—a petty dodge. Our enquiries show that Mr. Munro and his chickens have flown from the farm—to roost, perhaps, in a quieter spot.

Impudent tipster

Percy Tibbler, a Coventry tipster, has been fined £10 and costs at Merthyr for sending a circular racing letter to a student teacher.

We agree with the magistrate that the sending of the letter to the young teacher's school was outrageous. Perhaps the sharp fine imposed will be a warning to others who broadcast racing circulars indiscriminately.

Thirteen years after

An unemployed Lancashire youth was offered a post in a Government department providing his father was an ex-Service man. The youth's father, however, was too old to serve in the war.

Can he find a way?

Another young man was rejected because his father died before 1914, though his two brothers were killed in action.

While we have always championed the cause of ex-Service men, we cannot support this victimising of the second generation.

The matter requires the attention of the President of the British Legion, Earl Jellicoe.

Easy money

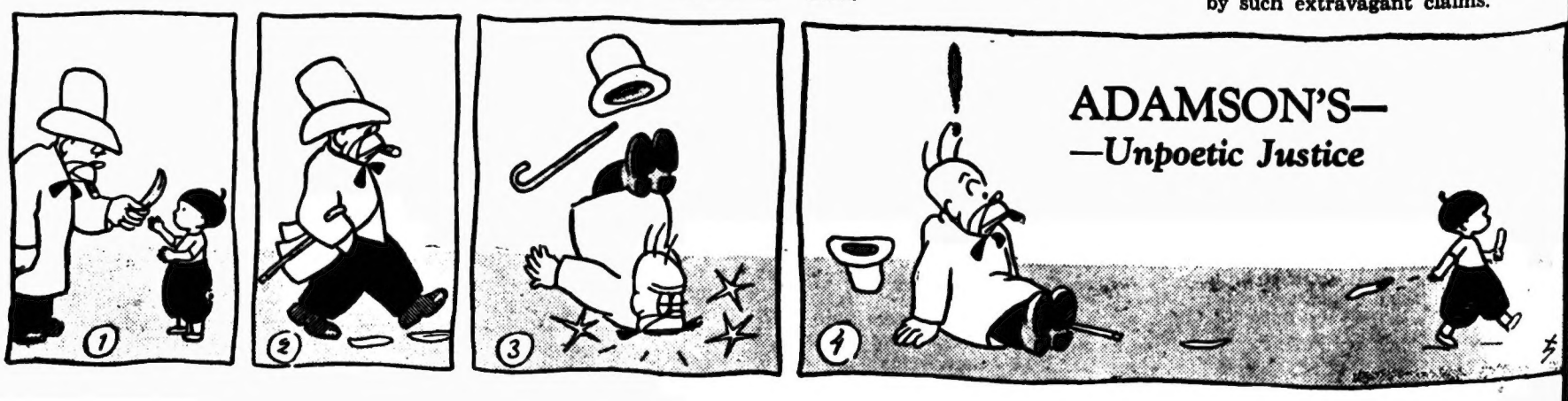
An enterprising rogue is fleecing Sussex shopkeepers by an artful trick. Posing as a Scotland Yard detective, he demands to be shown the Treasury notes in their possession.

Sprinkling the notes with some liquid he selects a few which he declares are spurious, hands the tradesman a receipt, and disappears. Need we say that any detective will produce his official warrant card on demand?

Optical delusion

Messrs. Wells and Winch, of 55-6 Chancery Lane, London, are offering eye-tests in a sufferer's own home and the supply of glasses at greatly reduced prices.

The address given is the office of a supply company, and the firm is not known to the British Optical Association. Readers should not be deluded by such extravagant claims.



GREAT BEER Mystery

by R. S. CHAPMAN

who is the Secretary of a National organisation—the Working Men's Club and Institute Union—comprising over 2,000 working men's clubs with nearly 1,000,000 members. He draws attention in this outspoken article to a matter which is of the utmost concern to all retailers and consumers of beer.

A taproom toast—but the tankards won't be raised so lighthear.edly to 1932 unless—

THE daily Press has recently been spilling a considerable amount of ink on the subject of Beer.

But the public generally is not yet informed of the most important aspects of this beer question, and, as one who has to devote not a little time to it, I propose to reveal a few facts which may be enlightening.

Before the war the tax on beer was 7s. 9d. per standard barrel. During the war years it was enormously increased, and prior to last September the tax stood at 83s.

In September last an additional tax of 31s. was imposed by the Chancellor, making the total tax £5 14s. Assuming the fairness of the pre-war tax of 7s. 9d. per barrel, how can the present-day taxation—nearly *fifteen times that amount*—be justified?

A ghastly failure

JUDGING from my experience as the secretary of a great national organisation of clubs, *I believe that the Chancellor's new tax is a complete failure.* One effect of it has been to reduce public consumption of beer in the month of October by nearly 27 per cent., or over 421,000 barrels!

Nevertheless, I believe that the mere increase in the tax itself has not been solely responsible for the drop in consumption. The plain truth of the matter is that thousands of beer drinkers in the country have become tired of paying through the nose for an article for which they have no guarantee of strength.

Let it be clearly understood that I refer here only to the mild ales which constitute the working-man's chief drink; and *not* to the bottled beers which are invariably supplied to a sound proprietary standard.

Brewers have steadfastly refused in almost all cases to state the strength—or gravity—of these draught mild beers which they deliver to the public, on whom they lay the full burden of the State's taxation.

Brewers are so kind

THE additional beer tax has meant that brewers must either decrease the strength of their beer, or increase the price; for it is the gravity which determines the amount of tax to be paid.

Brewers *must* either reduce gravity or increase price, unless they bear the whole of the extra tax themselves, and it is nonsense to suppose that any brewer does bear the extra tax.

Mr. Snowden's 31s. is based on a beer of 1,055 degrees gravity.

An average beer is 1,042 degrees, and the extra tax on this in proportion is 24s. The brewer who will cut his former profit by 24s. would be difficult to find, and, if found, would deserve a monument to his memory.

It must be taken for granted that, generally speaking, the whole of the additional tax has been passed on by the brewers to their customers.

Apart, however, from having every consignment of beer analysed it is impossible for a beer retailer to know whether he is being overcharged or not. It is quite possible for a brewer, so far from suffering under the tax, to make a considerable profit from it.

The 1d. a pint extra which the customer pays is for an average beer of 1,042 degrees gravity. The brewer merely has to deliver a barrel below this gravity to make his extra profit.

Every degree less means an extra 2s. 6d. or so to him, and strength may be decreased several degrees before it is apparent to the customer's taste. The brewer can sail as near the wind in decreasing gravity as the tolerance of the customer will allow.

There is no question that the brewer *can* disclose the gravity of the beer he supplies if he chooses to do so. He must know to a decimal point just what it is because he is taxed upon that gravity.

The Excise men take the strength of every brew and base their assessments on it. By the brewer's refusal to give the gravity to their customers it is impossible for the retailers to make comparisons of strength between the goods supplied by one brewer and another.

It is equally impossible for them to know how much represents tax and how much represents the cost of the goods. The consumer swallows as well as he may, and pays as cheerfully as he may for what is put before him. The supplier, whether publican or club, is as helpless as he.

And this intolerable situation is already being reflected in the falling sales of draught beers.

Nobody could ever accuse the brewing trade, as a whole, of being lacking in business acumen, but if they retain their traditional good sense they will see the red light in time and end this situation.

They must come into line with other traders and declare the value or strength of the goods they sell. They must give the working man a drink of full value for the money he pays. An Edinburgh firm of brewers, in declining to reveal the gravity of their beer, stated:—"At a meeting of the Scottish Brewers' Association it was decided that the practice of showing gravities of the different ales on invoices be discontinued."

The representative of 250,000 of our clubmen in Yorkshire requested a meeting with the Yorkshire Brewers' Association with a view to getting the gravities stated on invoices. The reply of the Brewers' Association Secretary was that "no useful purpose can be served by an interview pending the introduction of the next Budget in 1932."

Another firm replied: "We regret we are unable to give you this information, which would be quite contrary to the practice of brewers throughout the country."

Why this reluctance? A butcher is compelled by law to give the weight of the meat he sells, or the baker the weight of a loaf of bread.

The law, too, requires that milk shall not be sold below a certain standard of quality, and woe betide the dairyman who uses the village pump as an aid to business. But a brewer is not legally compelled to disclose the gravity of the beer he supplies to the public.

My Union has called the attention of a large number of Members of the present House of Commons to the matter, and already nearly one hundred members have signified their willingness to support a measure which will compel brewers to fall into line with other traders and give a square deal to the public.

What Did Snowden Say Last Year?

IN April, 1930, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, then Mr. Philip Snowden, stated in the House of Commons "those who spend these sums (on beer), often from very inadequate means, contribute to the National Revenue, in the main, out of all proportion to their means, and I do not think it would be fair to tax their mis-applied expenditure still more."

* * *

In September, 1931, however, he imposed 31s., making the total tax £5 14s. per barrel.

In his proposition the Chancellor estimated that it would produce £4,500,000 extra revenue by the end of March, 1932, or an average of nearly £800,000 a month. *During the first month it produced less than £50,000—one-sixteenth part of the Chancellor's estimate.*

"Ginger" in the beer!

I FEEL sure there will be an overwhelming number of M.P.s willing to support the compulsory revelation of gravities by brewers, once they appreciate the position. I have talked with numerous people with understanding of the matter, and none can advance any valid reason why brewers should not voluntarily give this information.

The brewers will be doing themselves and the "Trade" much harm if they do not change their policy and frankly give their customers the strength of the goods they supply.

The Best Wish of All!

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS

The Most Rev. Dr. C. G. LANG,
Archbishop of Canterbury

YOUR GRACE,—At the Disarmament Service in St. Paul's Cathedral you expressed the strongest hope that the February World Conference would be crowned with success.

We are all permitted at this season to express some heart-felt hope—to breathe some special prayer. I think that sentiment of yours is the best New Year wish we can all express.

As you so truly state, the world's present perplexities, apprehensions and confusions arise from selfishness and a deadly fear among the nations.

There is a suggestion already that there shall be a year's holiday in the making of armaments. Let it be our wish that the Conference will resolve upon that course both as a practical, businesslike thing to do in our present distress and as a gesture towards the greater peace.

JOHN BULL.

Rev. HAROLD WESTLAKE,
Newcastle Wesleyan Mission

DEAR SIR,—I congratulate you on your protest against the sentence of a Newcastle boy of sixteen to three months' imprisonment for breach of recognisances.

Certainly the boy had previous convictions against him, but I agree that prison is far from being a suitable place for one of his age. Borstal might train him into a useful citizen; prison may make a persistent criminal of him.

The Newcastle magistrates should have thought twice before imposing this jail sentence.

JOHN BULL.

LORD D'ABERNON,
President, Lawn Tennis Assn.

MY LORD, At the recent meeting of your Association there was a great deal of discussion about domestic affairs, and the public read scathing comments on the bad court manners of swollen - headed Bright Young People.

That is all to the good, but what the public did not read was any discussion about two subjects of the most vital importance, namely, the shameful exploitation of tennis by so-called amateurs and the failure of your Association to encourage the legion of clean young players who work for a living.

Your Association has lost sight of the high purpose with which it was formed, and it will never fulfil that purpose until it purges itself of snobs and shamateurs.

JOHN BULL.

Trooper C. G. HALE,
11th Hussars, Tidworth

DEAR HALE,—Though I must admire a youth of nineteen who shows his ability to fly by jumping into an aeroplane at Brooklands and soaring across the sky to Winchester, I hope your exploit will not set a fashion for stolen joy-rides in the air. We have enough trouble with that sort of thing on the roads.

You were lucky not to be fined or sent to prison.

Now go ahead and prove your airmanship in a legitimate way. Why not apply to be transferred to the Royal Air Force?

JOHN BULL.

Dr. PERCY DEARMER,
Canon of Westminster

DEAR DOCTOR,—I am glad to see that you have had the courage to speak out on a subject which is so often ignored by members of the clergy—the right to die.

I am glad also to see that you treat the matter with understanding. You admit that when all hope is gone a suffering patient should be relieved from prolonged and needless pain.

Thank you, doctor. Eminent medical men have been saying the same thing for some time, and the support of the clergy may make the law take a more enlightened view of a most serious subject.

JOHN BULL.

"LENA,"
Blyth, Northumberland

DEAR LENA,—You must be the proudest Alsatian puppy in the North of England. When you began to bark furiously in the middle of the night your master, Mr. R. Robinson, ordered you to be quiet.

But, although you are only nine months old, you are a dog of spirit and intelligence. You jumped on his bed and pawed his face until he realised that the building was on fire.

Your warning saved thirty people from peril and you amply deserve the medal awarded to you by the National Canine Defence League.

JOHN BULL.

Mr. WILLIAM GRAHAM,
Gorton, Manchester

DEAR SIR,—When you were at school your headmaster, Mr. L. Martindale, took a keen interest in you and helped you to realise your ambition of becoming a teacher of handicrafts.

To show your appreciation of his kindness you have made him a silver cup emblazoned with the school colours. Mr. Martindale has, in turn, presented it to the school as a prize for competition.

Not only have you repaid a debt of gratitude in a singularly appropriate manner, but you have also given an impetus to boys wishing to follow in your footsteps. Students of your type make the lot of a teacher really pleasant.

JOHN BULL.

ALLAN KEATES,
Brighton

ROGUE,—You have been convicted of one of the cruellest tricks I have ever known. Representing yourself as an undertaker, you defrauded women by telling them that their husbands had died in hospital and collected money from them for "burial expenses."

A medical examination showed that you were sane, the doctor regarding you as a malingerer. As the chairman of the Bench declared, your victims might have been killed by the shock, and you richly deserved the sentence of six months' hard labour.

I wish you had fallen into the hands of the men you said were dead.

JOHN BULL.

Mr. CYRIL HALLIDAY,
Elland, Yorkshire

SPORTSMAN,—Your skill as a Rugby League player is well known, and it is said that you expect to be picked for the football team to tour Australia next year. I hope, however, that you will show a better understanding of the word "sportsmanship" than has been evident lately.

You were recently fined £1 and costs for ill-treating a horse. Evidence was given that you struck its face eight times with your fist and kicked it.

You may not play cricket, Halliday, but surely you can follow its code of conduct?

JOHN BULL.

Mrs. SARAH STONE,
Church Walk, Durham

DEAR MRS. STONE,—Although you are sixty-five you did not hesitate to brave the flood water which swirled waist-deep into the room where you were tending a bedridden woman. In danger yourself, you struggled to get her to safety and, with a little help, succeeded.

With the modesty of a true heroine you said little about it. Only now, three months after the floods, has the story been revealed at a gathering of your friends.

Your courage deserves to be more widely known.

JOHN BULL.

STRAIGHT *from the Shoulder*

LORD WAKEFIELD: "Wait until February is over and in all probability things will be much brighter."

That is encouraging, but why wait? Let's work to make things brighter now.

* * *

SIR PERCY BATES (Cunard Company): "Hopes of resuming work (on the giant liner) are considerable at the moment."

It would be a most heartening New Year gesture.

* * *

SIR W. BARCLAY PEAT: "The Government is the predominant partner in the brewing industry."

So by increasing the beer taxes it is cutting its own throat.

* * *

MR. EDWARD MILES (the Speaker's butler): "Really eminent people are not snobs."

Very true. Snobbery is the protective armour used by people with an inferiority complex.

The Sentence of the Court for—

Failing to Follow his Master

FACING the Court with an implacable gaze, the Rev. T. Elwy Williams, pastor of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church, Trefriw, refused to plead when charged with conduct prejudicial to good will and Christian fellowship.

"I cannot help feeling," said Mr. Watchdog, K.C., "that I should be addressing the Court in Mediæval Latin; for it is only by glancing at the court almanac that I can rid myself of the feeling that I am not in some obscure corner of Europe in the Dark Ages.

"The basis of this charge is nothing more or less than a stern refusal by Mr. Williams and his deacons to admit to membership of his church a woman and two children against whom nothing more damaging is known than that they are the wife and offspring of the proprietor of a combined restaurant and public-house.

"The woman, Mrs. Broughton, lately removed from Holyhead, and one of the first things she did was to present to the Trefriw church the papers of membership and letters of introduction from the Holyhead church which she and her children had both attended from childhood. The pastor, however, informed her that, as her husband is a licensee, she could not be accepted for membership.

"Fortunately, Mrs. Broughton and her children are not to be deprived of the comforts of religion, for the vicar of the Church of England has assured her "We will welcome you with open arms," and the Baptist Church has also extended an invitation. These actions show up in a stronger light the deplorably wrong-headed and narrow-minded conduct of the accused."

* * *

Mr. Strawsplitter said that his client had roundly stated: "I hate drink bitterly. I shall take my stand in the face of the whole world if necessary." This, counsel contended, revealed praiseworthy courage and determination.

Far too many clergymen were anxious to make the best of both worlds; but Mr. Williams would not compromise or temporise. The Bible had spoken of those who were like "unto an heathen man and a publican," and a pastor who took his Bible with fitting seriousness could not, without injury to his conscience, admit to the Christian fellowship people associated with the hateful liquor traffic.

* * *

"It is strange," said Mr. Justice Bull, "how often people who talk glibly of not being able to do this or that without injury to their conscience show no compunction about injuring the feelings of their fellows.

"It is no less strange how often obstinacy masquerades as determination and wrong-headedness as logic. Many people who should know better still produce Biblical quotations relating to publicans to support their prejudices against licensed victuallers; regardless of the fact that the publicans mentioned by Matthew were not sellers of drink, but inferior tax-collectors.

"And even assuming that the prisoner regards all publicans as sinners, there is no more reason for treating the children of a publican as sinners than there would be for regarding the child of a murderer as a criminal.

"Personally, I find it difficult to take seriously the spectacle of this Welsh Ajax defying the lightning of public opinion. I do not doubt that he is the sort of man who would go to the stake in defence of a wrong-headed idea, but, as we are living in the twentieth century, I cannot oblige by providing him with that glory.

"I will, in fact, merely smile him out of court and sentence him to spend the season of peace and good will alone with that conscience of his, in the hope that he will thus learn that the very genius of Christianity is love and charity."

Make it a Happy New Year!

by A. G. GARDINER

DURING the next few days the ancient salutation, "A Happy New Year," will be on the lips of all of us. It will be uttered with something deeper than the customary light-hearted gaiety.

We all know that we are on the eve of one of the most critical years in the history of this country and of the world. Judging from the omens, it may well be the blackest year in living experience.

But life is incalculable and omens are often misleading, and it is well to remember that mankind has often been in a tight place before and has emerged renewed and strengthened.

History is a record of ups and downs. Pepys' Diary is peppered with conversations with Evelyn in which the two friends mingle their laments over a country that is going to rack and ruin under the squalid rule of a squalid king.

They, too, were sad

And in the *Evening Standard* on November 4, 1829, just over a hundred years ago, there appeared this editorial:

"Look at the shipping—the trade is gone. Business has completely deserted our harbours and our ports. Look to the merchant—he is pining in despair. Look to the manufacturer—his engines are rusting. Look at Spitalfields—thousands are unemployed. Look to the retail dealer—his shop is deserted. Look to the Bankruptcy Court—it is crowded. Our jails are full, and the actions in our courts are chiefly upon bills of exchange and notes. Poverty is in our streets and crime is on the increase."

And so on. To come a little later, I have before me the current number of *Harper's Magazine*, which reproduces an article from *Harper's*, published in October 1857, which is astonishing in its parallel to the conditions of to-day both here and in America. Here are a few sentences:

"Not in the lifetime of most men who read this paper has there been so much grave and deep apprehension. . . . In our own country there is a universal commercial prostration and panic, and thousands of our poorest fellow-citizens are turned out against the approaching winter without employment and without the prospect of it.

"In France, the political cauldron seethes and bubbles with uncertainty; Russia hangs, as usual, like a cloud, dark and silent upon the horizon of Europe; while all the energies, resources and influence of the British Empire are sorely tried in coping with the vast and deadly Indian insurrection and with its disturbed relations in China. Of our own troubles no man can see the end..."

And so on. It might have been written to-day, and in England, so exactly is it a picture of present conditions. Yet within eighteen months, as *Harper's Magazine* points out, the clouds had passed from the world and business was back at normal.

So it will be again. I could recall many other illustrations of the panics and bad times of the past, when "the end of all things" seemed at hand. But these will serve to show that our experience to-day is only a phase of human experience in all times.

It will pass as all such experiences have passed before. I hope that the New Year that is upon us will see the lifting of the shadow, and that before the end of 1932 we shall know that the worst is over and that the world is getting back to normal.

But this will not come about without wisdom in ourselves and bold and resolute action by those who have the control of the world's affairs. I have the more hope that relief will come in 1932 because of the very magnitude of the calamity and especially because of its universality.

This is no local trouble. The whole world is sick from pole to pole and from hemisphere to hemisphere. We are all perishing from the same disease. We know what the disease is. We know also what the remedy is.

The disease, in a word, is the breakdown of international trade. All over the world, the ports are filled with idle vessels. Millions of tons of shipping are laid up because the exchange of goods has ceased to flow.

South America, Australia, South Africa, all are stagnant because they cannot sell their raw materials at a profit. Being impoverished, they cannot buy, and Lancashire and Yorkshire, South Wales and Durham are derelict because they cannot sell.

. . . the machine of international trade in motion again

The same is true of the United States, with its 10,000,000 of unemployed, of Germany, with its 5,000,000 of unemployed, and of every other country in greater or lesser degree. Trade is the life-blood of the world, and trade having ceased to flow, all the world is sick.

The cause of the breakdown of international trade is not that the people do not want to exchange their goods. They are hungry for each other's goods.

Tackle the dragon

But the medium of exchange has broken down. It is as though all the railroads and highways of international communication had been torn up, and every community was left to starve in isolation. In short, the world is drifting back to barbarism.

If the drift is to be stopped, we must be clear as to the cause of the trouble. The root of that cause is far back in the war and still more in the Treaty of Versailles. International trade is stagnant to-day because the war debts and reparations have slowly strangled it for a dozen years.

The attempt to make one country bear the whole burden of the war has destroyed the financial equilibrium of the world. It has caused practically all the world's gold supply to flow into two channels, those of the United States and France, leaving all the rest of the nations starved of its fertilising power.

Desperate attempts to correct the mischief have been made, only with the result of aggravating the evil. Unable to sell abroad, countries have raised their tariffs higher to keep out competition from the home market, thus intensifying that paralysis of international trade from which the world is perishing. Stripped of their gold, they have been driven off the gold standard, and the financial chaos has been increased by fluctuating and unstable currencies which increase the difficulties of restoring world trade.

The question of "A Happy New Year" depends on one thing first and

(*Continued in col. 4*)

The lever of confidence will set . . .

Hard Lives

Homely Wisdom—by

CANON R. J. CAMPBELL, D.D.

SEVERAL young men have written to me about the article, "Disheartened." One poor boy of twenty-four says that it accurately describes his own case except that he is crippled by a painful malady which is gradually getting worse.

He feels himself hopelessly beaten in the battle of life, for he has both intelligence and ambition without the slightest prospect of being other than he now is. He longs for woman's love and companionship, too, but his infirmity shuts him out from these natural human joys.

YOUTH is a hard time for most men, because it is an intensely emotional period. The sex storm rages then, and is not easily got under control; mortifications and discouragements are deeply felt; experience is lacking, and the mind has not yet come to learn wherein the chief values of life consist.

To all young hearts on fire with baffled yearnings I would say: "Ask yourself what you really want from life, for you are quite likely to get it if you want it hard enough."

What every decent man needs in order to find a sufficient measure of contentment in life is an occupation that interests him and in which he can be of service, loyal friendship, and some amount of taste and opportunity for mental culture.

In these days of wireless and cheap literature these are within the reach of everybody.

FURTHERMORE, what look like hindrances are often conditions of advancement. Philip Snowden would not have been the man he is to-day but for the accident that crippled him and forced him into study and thought. I do not believe he cares a rap for his peerage; he has said himself that, having got into the groove of public life, he stayed in it, but as a private citizen he would have been no less busy and useful.

It is easy enough to be pleasant
When life goes by like a song;
But the man worth while is the man who can smile
When everything goes dead wrong.

Make of yourself the best you have it in you to be; and then, be your limitations what they may, life will give you a chance to show your worth.

(*Continued from col. 3.*)

foremost. It depends on whether the world will uproot the Upas tree that is poisoning its life.

The issue will be raised forthwith, in the first days of January, when the conference on war debts and reparations meets.

And why not?

If wisdom prevails, war debts and reparations will be wiped out once and for all. That may be found impossible at once, in view of the fierce opposition in the United States Congress to the Hoover moratorium.

But at least the moratorium must be extended for two years. If that were done, it would do more to restore confidence in the world than anything that has been done since the war. And with confidence restored the machine of international trade would be put in motion again and the present paralysis would pass, not for our country only, but for all countries.

Then 1932 would, indeed, be "A Happy New Year," the happiest New Year the earth has enjoyed since the calamity that befell it in 1914.

While crowds throng the big stores spies are often secretly trying to trap the men and women behind the counter

Victims of shop spies have appealed to Mr. J. R. Leslie, Shop Assistants' Union Secretary

Sinister SHOPPING SPY

by MAJOR-GENERAL SIR WYNDHAM CHILDS

THE leniency foolishly extended to wealthy women who indulge in shoplifting or make a practice of obtaining goods by false pretences has been the subject of comment in this paper on many occasions.

But I cannot recall a more glaring example than is afforded by the case of Mrs. Henrietta Isaacs, the wife of a distinguished diamond merchant, who resides in luxurious circumstances at 60, Albert Court, Prince Consort Road, Kensington Gore, London.

This woman was recently prosecuted for systematic shop frauds, yet, for reasons I fail to understand, the details have mysteriously escaped publicity.

Society raider

I stumbled upon them when directing enquiries into the activities of certain private detectives employed by London and provincial stores to detect staff offences, and whose methods I can only characterise as thoroughly despicable.

I propose to deal with it first in order to show the contrasting attitude towards wealthy offenders and poor jaded and harassed shop assistants.

For years Mrs. Isaacs has conducted a coolly calculated campaign of fraud. Stores which have suffered in consequence include Selfridges, Dickins and Jones, Bourne and Hollingsworth, Marshall and Snelgrove, Harrods, Barkers, Harvey Nichols and Co., and Debenhams.

Her practice has been to impersonate distinguished people known to have accounts at certain stores, and one example of her ingenuity will suffice to show her methods.

On the occasion of the wedding of Lady May Cambridge to Captain Abel-Smith, she impudently impersonated the bridegroom's mother, Mrs. Frances Abel-Smith, of Princes Gate, S.W., and obtained goods in her name from numerous stores.

Death trick

On occasion Mrs. Isaacs has even stooped to the shameful practice of ordering articles in the names of people recently deceased, gaining advance news of their deaths before it could reach the stores where they had accounts.

A few weeks ago, after her long and successful run, Mrs. Isaacs was detained on suspicion by a member of the office staff of Harvey Nichols and Co., Ltd., and finally identified by a house detective from Marshall and Snelgrove.

She was charged at Westminster Police Court with obtaining goods by representing herself to be an account customer whose name she was misusing. Though only three firms were interested in this case, there were fifty complaints against her.

Her husband agreed to make restitution, and she was simply bound over in the sum of £100 for twelve months.

Is it surprising that shoplifters flourish? Is it surprising that all the big stores are defrauded by daring women thieves?

One of the most persistent offenders at the moment is Mrs. Esme Ellison, who has impudently posed as "Mrs. Christina Llewellyn," "Mrs. Saville," "Mrs. Josephs," and "Mrs. Agnes Beaumont."

Yet she remains at large.

What do house detectives think of this scandal? I am sure they must sometimes feel that all their arduous and exacting labours are in vain when they see one wealthy offender after another escape adequate punishment when eventually apprehended through their vigilance.

But let me contrast this scandal with another, by telling something of the pains that have latterly been taken and the resources that have been massed against poor counter hands in endeavours to detect cases of dishonesty among employees.

Specialist sleuths

A firm of enquiry agents, known as "City Shoppers," which has its headquarters in Regent Street, London, may be regarded as "specialists" in this sort of thing.

Its leading light is a Mr. E. R. Lodge, and its success may be gauged from the fact that, during the past few months, it has carried out commissions for most of the big stores, including Barkers, Whiteleys, Harrods, Selfridges, Gamages, and Swan and Edgars.

As a result, scores of shop assistants who had previously held excellent characters have been accused of petty crimes and flung out of employment.

I have particulars before me relating to four stores from which there have been upwards of one hundred dismissals, thanks to Mr. Lodge or his agents.

Such "success," over so short a period, seems phenomenal until one comes to investigate the methods employed.

In many cases, I regret to say, the evidence presented is of such a deliberately manufactured character that no magistrate would entertain it.

But, quite apart from that, I hold the view that any firm which depends for any of its profits on the number of offences it can discover is open at once to criticism. The abuses to which such a system is liable need hardly be stressed.

I note that Mr. Lodge stipulates that house-detectives must not be told that his agency has been commissioned to carry out investigations. Many people must be puzzled to know why clients should be asked to keep their trusted experts in the dark.

Rushed into it

Can it be because the more experienced detectives might object to the methods employed?

I certainly object very strongly to them myself.

From the investigations I have caused to be made it is apparent that the most despicable tricks are adopted to trap busy shop assistants into making one slight slip that may cost them their job.

Sometimes as many as three decoy customers are employed, and the procedure adopted is as follows:

The first decoy will approach a counter and use every means of persuasion to induce the assistant to let him have some article at slightly reduced price.

If he fails, hard upon his heels will come decoy number two, who will pretend to be in a terrible hurry, make a purchase, pay cash, and dash away without waiting for a receipt.

Before the assistant can enter up this sale or deposit the cash in the till the third decoy will pounce upon him, also pretending to be in a hurry, so that the salesman has to defer the entry to wait upon him.

Then the sleuth from the enquiry agency steps forward and demands to know why loose cash is lying on the counter. The innocent assistant explains that it is from the last sale, whereupon the detective demands to see the bill.

Despicable traps

The wretched counter-hand's truthful assertion that he has had no time to book it is not accepted and he is marched off to a private room to undergo interrogation by the enquiry agent.

It means the sack for him and a cheque for the agency!

If you imagine such monstrous methods impossible, let me cite some actual examples in confirmation.

The above tactics were used in trapping an assistant in one instance where the purchase amount of the bogus sale was 25s.

In another case a salesman was caught selling an article at 2s. under value. He had committed this offence, it is true, but he had been tempted again and again by pressing decoys before being tricked into this one lapse.

The enormity of such practices will be realised when I reveal that the decoys in this instance spent weeks in making bogus purchases and that goods to the value of hundreds of pounds had crossed the counter before they finally caught the unwitting salesman for 2s.

Of course, all these goods had to be worked back to the shop, the agency registered another splendid success and the assistant was dismissed.

I am appalled that such intolerable devices should be used to bring about the downfall of struggling shop assistants. But the fact is there.

That other agencies are operating on the same lines is also apparent. The National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants has already received numerous complaints from provincial as well as London branches in this respect.

In one case a woman went into a store and purchased a sixpenny article. The girl rang it up and then the woman decoy made a penny purchase.

This despicable manœuvre left the assistant with 1d. in her hand and the decoy with articles worth 7d. The girl was at once reported for allow-

Laughing at BAIL BONDS

YET another rogue has evaded justice through the clemency extended to him in the form of bail while he was awaiting trial on a serious charge.

He is John Thompson, and he has been a source of trouble to the police for some time. The story of his latest laugh at the law affords an important lesson.

Thompson only arrived in South London recently, and tried to negotiate a forged cheque for £250 with a local business man at once.

His ruse was discovered; the police were telephoned for and Thompson was arrested.

He was charged with attempting to negotiate a forged instrument, and sent for trial at the Old Bailey, London.

Why, in view of his record, he was ever allowed bail is a mystery; but he was. And, of course, he repaid this consideration by doing the disappearing trick.

That is bad enough, but there is a worse aspect to be considered. Thompson is known to have perpetrated many previous frauds, and there is little doubt that he will use his liberty to bring off fresh coups.

He does not always use the name of Thompson, but has operated successfully in various parts, using the names of "John Lewis" and "J. Rompson."

Magistrates must harden their hearts in future whenever they have to deal with rogues of this kidney.

Esme Ellison, a noted adventuress, who is "wanted" for fraudulently impersonating credit customers

PLOTS

ing a customer to get away with these goods for 1d.

I have before me another instance where a decoy hurried into a shoe store a few minutes before closing time and asked a girl to show him some shoes.

He pretended to inspect several pairs and then wavered between a pair at 21s. and a pair at 35s., deliberately delaying the transaction until after closing time, and finally asking the assistant to wrap up the cheaper shoes.

Cash was paid and a receipt obtained, and as if in an afterthought, the decoy then said he would prefer the 35s. shoes, which were duly handed to him.

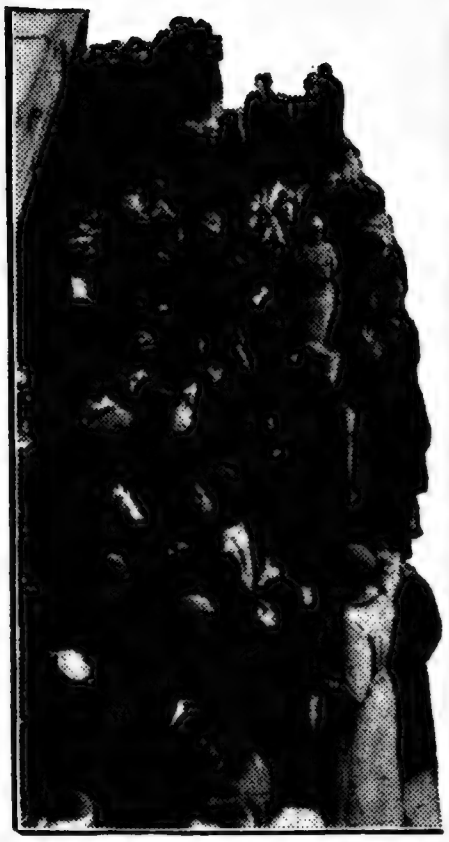
The decoy thrust the extra 14s. into the assistant's hand and rushed out without waiting for a receipt, the obvious intention being to tempt the assistant to pocket the extra money.

One saved

I am pleased to say that this dastardly attempt failed and the zealous detectives were doubtless annoyed to find that their prospective victim had made out a receipt and entered the money as a matter of course before leaving the shop.

An ironmonger's assistant was less fortunate. A decoy customer went to him in a rush hour and spent so long examining some hinges that other legitimate customers got impatient and the assistant grew flurried in endeavouring to cope with them all. A purchase was finally made and the decoy hurried away without waiting for a receipt.

Next day the assistant could not account for the 1s. 10d. which had been paid for the hinges. Although he had twenty-two years' service with the firm and had been shell-shocked in the war, he was brutally cross-



What does the shopping public think of this despicable scandal?

examined by the detective until he broke down and admitted that he had forgotten to book the 1s. 10d.

As a result of this manufactured case against him he is now tramping the streets, workless and disgraced.

One monstrous aspect revealed in many of the cases under review is the fact that victims have been induced, under third degree methods, to sign statements admitting guilt, though they were deliberately tricked into the lapses in the way I have described.

One bright incident is provided by the experience of a young salesman who was astute enough to discern that articles he had sold over the counter were finding their way back into his stock.

This showed that traps were being set for him and when he was eventually interrogated over a discrepancy of 2s. he triumphantly accounted for it and challenged the detective to formulate a charge. Of course, this was the last thing they would risk doing, for, as I have already remarked, none of these trumped-up cases could be sustained in law.

It is a terrifying thing that good youths and girls should be in danger of losing their jobs in such circumstances, and I denounce the whole practice as mean, cowardly and despicable.

I do not doubt that those stores which are induced to give these outside agencies a trial do so in good faith.

But I cannot believe that their directors are aware of some of the outrageous practices adopted in endeavouring to tempt unsuspecting employees from the path of honesty.

QUEER MISSION: A Warning

SEVERAL people are now presenting collecting boxes, seeking support for the Priscilla Aid Society, of Priscilla Road, Bow, London, E., and as the public is inclined to give liberally at this season of the year, some words of comment seem desirable.

This Society runs a small mission hall, arranges teas for poor children, and maintains a convalescent home at Canvey. On the face of it, this sounds ambitious and deserving of support, but when we take a peep behind the scenes a number of disquieting facts are revealed.

Strictly speaking, there is no Society at all, and the movement is not even under the control of a committee.

It is entirely a personal affair, run by a Mrs. Billing and her daughter, and the amount of charitable work achieved scarcely justifies public appeals for funds.

It is true that small groups of children are entertained at the Mission Hall, but there are already numerous soundly established and properly run charities looking after work of this kind.

* * *

As for the so-called convalescent home, this is nothing more than a tiny cottage with two bedrooms; there are no adequate facilities for convalescents.

The business end appears in the fact that collectors are allowed to pocket a quarter of anything they collect up to £2; the scale of commission is still higher for amounts collected in excess of this sum.

An Astounding COURT MARTIAL

THOUGH barely recovered from a protracted nervous breakdown, Private Michael Joseph Cullen, a young soldier in the 1st Welch Regiment, has been forced to undergo the ordeal of a District Court Martial.

He has been held guilty of desertion, and has been sentenced to 4 days' detention with deductions of pay in addition.

Inquiries we have made, following a moving appeal from his distracted parents, convince us that further publicity is called for.

Michael Cullen's home is in Swansea. His father served throughout the whole of the Great War with the 14th Welch Regiment, and a brother served for three years in the R.A.M.C.

When young Michael entered the Army as a bandsman there was every reason to suppose that he would have a successful career, for he is an excellent musician, playing the oboe, clarinet and saxophone.

But when he came home on Christmas furlough in 1929, he complained of pains in his throat, back and head, and on being examined by Dr. Nelson Jones, medical officer of the recruiting depôt at Swansea, was given a certificate on which he was granted an extension of leave.

Certified unfit

In February, 1930, Michael Cullen was granted special leave for a family bereavement, and as he again complained of pains and did not look well, his parents urged him to consult the doctor again.

The same medical officer certified him as unfit to return to duty. After extended leave granted on this certificate, Michael finally set off to rejoin his regiment. From that moment the young bandsman vanished.

Nothing, indeed, was heard until May, 1930, when a detective called to say that a young man answering Michael's description had been heard of at Canal Bank Cottages, Port Tenant, where he had been befriended by an elderly woman.

He had been ill and had received medical treatment.

The distracted parents eventually succeeded in locating this Good Samaritan, a Mrs. Benson, only to learn that the young man, who was undoubtedly their son, had left after sheltering for one night only.

Found—and lost

Mrs. Benson told how she had invited him in because he seemed to be wandering about in an aimless fashion and looked unkempt and ill.

He seemed dazed, and unable to answer questions rationally.

He was not even sure of his name, and had suddenly collapsed.

Dr. L. W. Hefferman, who is a member of the Swansea Borough Council, was summoned, and made the young man comfortable for the night. In the morning he had taken to the road again.

The parents' distress at missing their ailing son by a matter of hours may well be imagined. They made every effort to trace him, but in vain. Month followed month, and it was not until October this year that they learned with unspeakable relief that Michael had surrendered at the Cardiff depôt of the Welch Regiment.

At the Court Martial which has just followed, young Cullen declared that he had been suffering from loss of memory. He had been wandering about, not knowing who he was, and the chance reading of a newspaper article relating to Army pay cuts had suddenly stirred military memories in his benumbed mind.

His last clear recollection was of going on leave, and on realising his identity his first thought was to make for his home. When he neared the house he ran into a neighbour, who informed him that his family were away, and it was with astonishment that he learnt that he had been reported as missing.

In his favour

He seemed to have no idea of the lapse of time until he was told.

Then it dawned upon his awakening mind that it was his duty to report to his unit.

It is in his favour that he did so at once, without even waiting to see his parents!

Yet, the result was the charge of desertion and a Court-Martial.

Our own representative has visited Wales, and has made most exhaustive inquiries, which yield a mass of evidence in young Cullen's favour.

Mrs. Benson, the widow who befriended him on that night in May, 1930, is emphatic in asserting that he was far from normal then.

Her sympathy was aroused on seeing him wandering about, staring at the canal; and though she was a little frightened by his manner she felt prompted to help him because she had lost a son of about his age in the war.

She declares that when he collapsed he started to bleed at the nose and mouth, and she was afraid he was going to die. The only other person in the house was a lodger of eighty-four.

The cottage is isolated, and as it was late at night she and her lodger decided to go together for a doctor.

Medical view

Our representative has interviewed Dr. Hefferman, who has very kindly confirmed all the circumstances from his case book.

Dr. Hefferman states that he found Cullen dazed and unable to answer questions except in the haziest way. It is his belief that Cullen knew nothing about himself then, but all the doctor could do at the time was to stop the bleeding and make the patient comfortable for the night. And in the morning the poor fellow had disappeared.

Dr. Hefferman sent a report to the military authorities, and also attended in person.

But even this medical man's expert evidence did not convince the military minds.

Quite apart from that, though, there is the evidence of Dr. Nelson Jones, the military medical officer, who attended Cullen just before his first disappearance.

He, too, has obligingly produced his case book for our inspection, and in it Cullen is definitely recorded as suffering from *neurasthenia!*

We understand that when he has served his sentence he is to be drafted to India.

The military authorities must intervene before that. His case should be thoroughly investigated.

ALDERSHOT TATTOO *Scandal*

THE Aldershot Tattoo Committee is already planning its colossal military pageants for 1932. Recent Press announcements declare that it will "outshine previous efforts."

This yearly event, which draws well over 300,000 people from all parts of the country, is openly advertised as being "in aid of military charitable funds," and the growing public which enthusiastically supports this world's best performance by the world's finest troops takes it for granted that the money raised is appropriately applied.

This colossal project is only made possible by utilising military resources. Even a producer of Mr. Cochran's calibre would view the undertaking as too stupendous and costly to attempt.

But we must remember that the Tattoo's "cast" of 5,000 are serving soldiers whose salaries are met by the taxpayer.

Doubts

A study of the balance-sheet for 1931, however, immediately raises doubts.

We have made enquiries, and it is clear that a very small proportion of the huge takings goes to charity—many of the disbursements are open to criticism.

Now, the Aldershot Tattoo has grown into a national affair. People come from all over Britain to see it. Foreigners come to admire.

Figures for the last three years show that the attendance has increased steadily by tens of thousands. During the week of its production special trains are run from all parts of the country, while at least 45,000 spectators come by road.

As a spectacle it is unrivalled and the organisation is superb; but we are bound to say that the allocation of its finances is unreasonable and unfair.

Let us consider facts and figures.

The total receipts from the public at the 1931 Tattoo were £69,127 13s. 8d., yet the amount devoted to charities was only £5,902 9s. 2d.

There are also grants totalling £1,385 7s. 10d., the nature of which is not disclosed.

Deserving are neglected

Items appearing in the balance-sheet under the alleged "charity" head afford much food for thought. For instance, we find that £1,252 19s. 2d. is allowed to the officers' families' benevolent fund, while only £350 is allocated to the other ranks' families' benevolent fund.

Many people must wonder why there should be this glaring disproportion when it is obvious that the "other ranks" are far more numerous.

We understand that the British Legion has twice applied to the Tattoo Command Trust for grants, only to be met by refusals.

On the second occasion the Trust so far unbent as to offer to consider any case of a serving soldier the Legion cared to submit.

But it is the ex-Service man who stands most in need of charity. In Aldershot alone there are some 1,400 ex-Servicemen on the unemployment register, and there are many deserving cases among them.

Contrast!

There is in Aldershot, too, an orphanage where 90 per cent. of the children are the orphans of soldiers. But the Tattoo Trust has not spared a penny for these deserving mites.

Contrast! A small home where soldiers have to *pay* to send their children to be looked after when the mothers are sick has been allowed £726.

This year, for the first time since its inception, the Tattoo Trust graciously allowed the Aldershot Cottage Hospital £100. It could well afford to do this, we imagine, since it was able to allow an officers' sports club £1,150.

But let us look at figures on a larger scale, trusting that readers are bearing in mind that £69,127 13s. 8d. was collected.

Where, then, has this money gone if not "in aid of military charitable funds"?

It is all scrupulously accounted for in the balance-sheet, from which we gather that, after allowing £28,329 for Tattoo production costs, the bulk has been swallowed up in recreational grants

The Aldershot Command Athletic Association takes £13,496 8s., with an advance of £300 towards the next season; £150 appears against "Command swimming bath," and £373 for a "Mounted sports ground." Then there is the £1,150 for the officers' sports club, already mentioned.

Tommy's bit, too

Considered in total, we have: £15,469 for sports, against £5,902 for charities.

What, we wonder, does the public think about that?

But there are other aspects which call for comment.

In connection with the titanic sports developments which are swallowing up so much money, a great deal of the labour is being provided freely by Tommies.

This is grossly unfair to Tommy and the taxpayer, and we think that when so much work is available it should be given to ex-Service men who are at present unemployed.

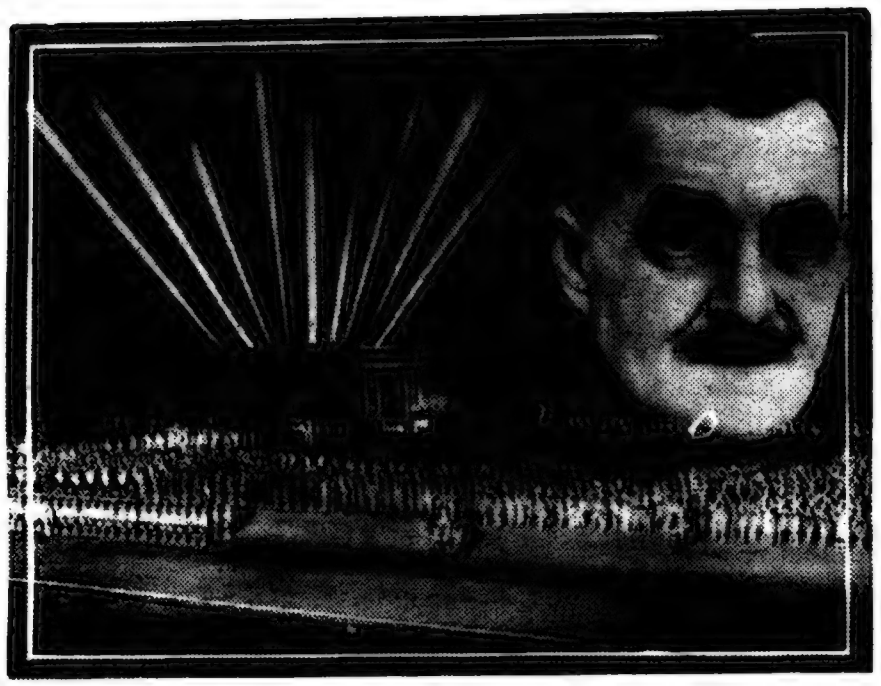
One word must be said in conclusion in fairness to the thousands of serving soldiers who yearly participate in the Tattoo, and, through their efficiency and keenness, largely contribute to its success.

Surely they deserve to get something out of it besides hard work and long hours of tedious rehearsal. Will it be believed that at present all they are allowed for each night's work is a voucher entitling them to food in the canteen to the value of a shilling?

Let each man be paid a cash bonus for each public appearance; and there will still be a substantial sum over for military charities *if discriminately applied.*

The present extravagant expenditure on sports and uneven allocations for charity cannot be tolerated.

We urge the Aldershot Tattoo Committee to give very determined attention to these points if it really wishes to "outshine all previous efforts" in 1932.



Giant searchlights at the grand finale of the last Tattoo—but there's further illumination needed—perhaps General Sir David Campbell, then commanding-in-chief at Aldershot, can shed it

A TELLER *of Tales*

COMPLAINTS are piling up about a resourceful crook named Lewis Stanley Teller, whose success is doubtless due to his ability to concoct convincing stories at a moment's notice.

He travels by car, and in recent weeks has visited numerous scattered districts, including Braintree, Clacton, Finchley and Brighton.

One of the fanciful stories he relates when booking temporary quarters in some new town is that he is employed by J. Lyons and Co., Ltd., the caterers, and is on the look-out for a site for a new branch that is to be opened shortly.

He usually stays in a district for several days, making frequent excursions to business thoroughfares on the pretext of "spying out the land."

Unlike so many other tricksters, he does not disappear suddenly, but announces with considerable importance that his duties are completed, and calls for his account in lordly fashion.

* * *

His impressiveness is such that his cheques are usually accepted without demur. There are lots of them floating about at the moment—all worthless scraps of paper.

But the passing of worthless cheques is not his sole enterprise. He usually contrives to get away with numerous valuables as well.

Sometimes, by way of variety, he practises the old telephone trick of decoying a housewife away from home. Then he calls at the house, hands his card to the maid, and says that he has an appointment with her mistress.

He pretends that he cannot wait long, but as the matter is one of some urgency he will "just step inside" on the off-chance of the mistress returning.

Left alone, he helps himself to anything of value; he summons the maid to announce that he really cannot wait any longer, leaves an elaborate but fanciful message to be delivered to the woman of the house, and departs.

More than one victim noticed that Teller spoke with an American accent. This is not surprising, for he only recently arrived from the United States—with a bad record.

TOO MANY *Swindling "Sisters"*

WHENEVER a crook breaks new ground successfully a host of imitators soon springs up. This is particularly true where women crooks are concerned, and there has lately been a number of "nursing sister" swindles. We have exposed several instances of this form of fraud in recent months.

Sister Hilda Belsher, Nurse Patience, Nurse Diana Goode and Nurse McCarthy are a few names which come to mind—and now we have word of a new practitioner who calls herself "Sister Munroe."

* * *

She was in Rochester recently, and engaged apartments there, saying that she had just come from the Nurses' Home in Porchester Square, London.

Sister Munroe, who spoke with a marked Scots accent, declared that she would require accommodation for some considerable time, as it was her intention to look round for suitable premises in which to open a new nursing home.

A woman of forty, or thereabout, and one who gave the impression that she had wide experience of nursing, Sister Munroe confided that she had already got two nursing homes running successfully in other parts of the country.

* * *

After she had been in residence a few days she announced that she had to run up to Porchester Square on business, but would be back on the following day.

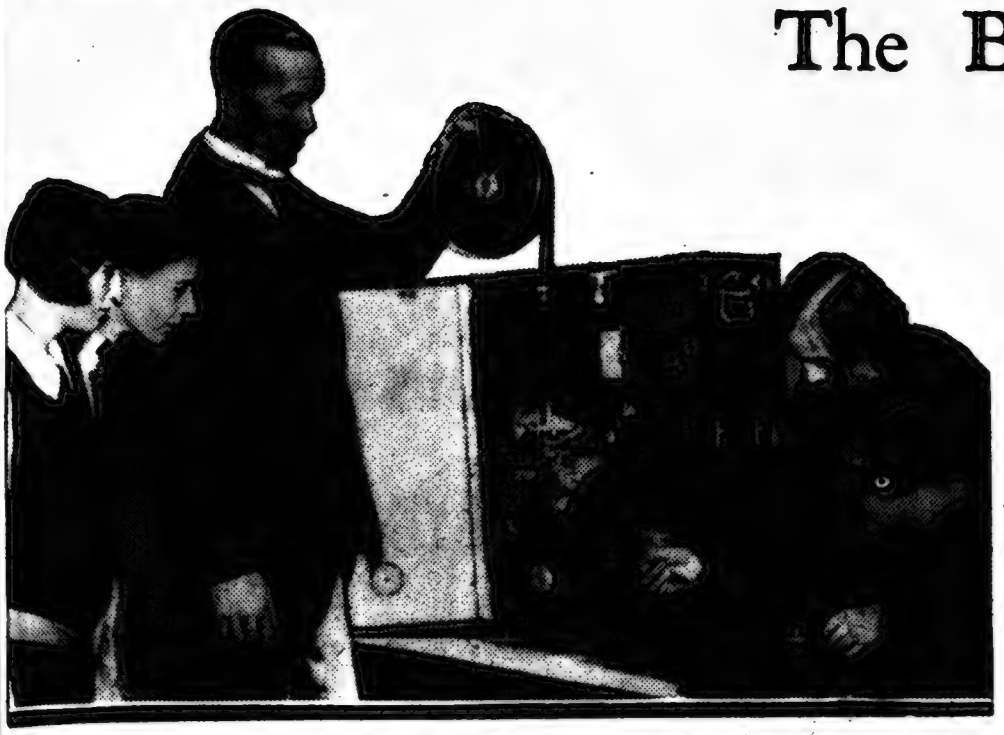
She did not return, and enquiry shows that no such person is known in the nursing profession.

Actually, she is just another of those resourceful women crooks who find a nurse's uniform becoming and at the same time useful in inspiring confidence.

She has already duped a number of people in this guise, while she always contrives to secure free board and lodging in every town she visits.

In view of the prevalence of this kind of fraud we urge hotel proprietors and those who let apartments to be on the look-out for any of the bogus nurses we have named.

The Biggest Film ROMANCE



School children, media of the "Middlesex experiment," have revealed to them the intimate mysteries of the talkie machine

— by —
E. ROFFE THOMPSON

ANYONE reading the newspapers nowadays might be pardoned for thinking that the whole world is standing still wringing its hands and waiting helplessly for some sort of cataclysmic disruption.

Yet, despite all its troubles and uneasiness, the world has not stopped progressing. Even though we are not told much about them, it does not mean that interesting and enlightened things are not happening.

Who, for instance, has ever heard of "The Middlesex Experiment"? Very few. Yet for the past year the Middlesex Education Committee has been carrying out invaluable research work to test the practical value of films as an aid to teaching.

It may sound a small matter, but I do not think it is. Actually, I think, we may well be witnessing not only the beginnings of a revolutionary change in our educational methods, but a new outlook on Empire development itself. And these are not small matters.

First flickers

The use of films in schools is not, of course, a new idea. In France, America, Germany, Japan there are State-promoted institutions for bringing the films to school.

It is a great pity that this country lags lamentably behind in the use of one of the most powerful instruments for education and culture ever devised; for so far there is no definite organisation in existence for making and supplying educational films.

In our usual British muddle-headed way, however, we are getting on in spite of the lack of organisation and encouragement, for at least 1,000 schools are now equipped with film apparatus.

Furthermore, the film unit of the Empire Marketing Board, with totally inadequate financial resources, is doing its best to try to keep pace with the rapidly growing demand for films suitable for schools.

That is why I regard the "Middlesex Experiment" as a vastly important move; for it not only brings us a little into line with other countries, but it puts us definitely ahead of them in so far as this is the first time any definite experimental work has been done in this field.

They'll love learning!

Without going into statistics and educational technicalities, it is enough to say here that the experiment was wholly successful. It proved beyond any doubt that, with the aid of films, children learn quicker and better, and that they remember better what they learn. It proved, too, that films are especially valuable where backward children are concerned.

Considering that for this experiment films were used which had not been specially made for educational purposes but were, in fact, some of the ordinary "interest" films that go into the theatres, it needs no great imagination to visualise the enormous possibilities that would be opened out by films specially made for educational work.

It is a little difficult to see why such films are not made, for there is not a single activity of mankind that is not chock-full of sheer romance, let alone educational interest.

Invention, discovery, exploration—they all teem with courage and idealism, beside which much of the stuff of the ordinary curriculum fades into insignificance.

Dig at any point you please into the fairy stories of science, medicine, astronomy, engineering—where could you find finer or more magically stirring tales?

And all the time schoolchildren were seeing such films, whether of this type or of a hundred others that could be named, they would be learning the things that mattered most—the community of interest and courage and daring that makes nations, the romance that made men travel and dig, weave and build, sow and reap, that out of the desert might come what we call Britain, what we know as the British Empire, and what we term the civilised world.

The best school book ever written, the best teacher who ever spoke, could not do as much as one such film carefully and exactly made.

The trouble is that commercial firms do not make such films. They cannot see where they are going to get any financial return on them.

Schools, on the other hand, are reluctant to spend money on projection apparatus while the supply of educational films remains so small. It is a vicious circle that needs to be broken by definite official encouragement.

But there is, I believe, a much wider aspect of this problem than appears at first sight; for I see outside the four walls of the schoolroom to the Empire beyond, if once we can find courage and means to do this job properly.

New Empire treks

No one can look through even the small list of films available for schools at the Empire Marketing Board without being struck by the vivid picture of the Empire and its resources that is inevitably being created in the mind of the child.

The catching and canning of salmon, fire fighting in the forests of Ontario, the production and marketing of Canadian apples, wheat cultivation in Australia, "pastures of gold"—which is a film of butter making on a New Zealand farm—sugar growing in Natal—there are dozens of them, and the mere list of titles makes the Empire and its work a living reality instead of a dull geographical lecture.

This is surely important, because there is a time coming—sooner, perhaps, than most people think—when the stream of emigration from this country to the Dominions and Colonies, now temporarily dried up, will flow again.

If by means of educational films we can prepare the citizens of to-morrow for the part that thousands of them will inevitably play in developing the untapped wealth and resources of the Empire, is not that work worth doing?

I do not want to overstress what, after all, is only a beginning—but at least it is a beginning.

No one can begin to think about the possibilities of the Empire without imagination beginning to play and glow about it. And while it is one thing to read about it and be told about it, it is another and quite different thing to be able to see it.

Glowing pictures

We used to be an adventurous race. It was this country that sought out the far places of the earth and made them habitable. We seem to have lost some of our grip, and with it our proudest heritage and tradition.

It may be that we have been so spoon-fed by political pap that we have lost a good deal of our verve and our "biff." But we can regain it, if not in this generation, then in the next; and we have an Empire to play with that transcends in its possibilities anything the world has ever seen.

There is Canada, undeveloped and unworked, with a population that works out at just over two to the square mile; there is Australia, with a population considerably less than that of London, and with an area of nearly 3,000,000 square miles. New Zealand has a population of only thirteen to the square mile, with two-thirds of her area tillable, and with two and a half million acres of Crown land still open to settlement.

There are, too, South Africa, Rhodesia, Kenya Colony—all of them only just beginning to be populated, all of them mines of limitless potential wealth.

Southern Rhodesia, for instance, has a total of 48,000,000 acres out of 96,000,000 acres definitely reserved for European occupation, and they are by no means occupied yet. And there are another 17,000,000 acres about which no decision has yet been reached.

Open the gates!

One day the Empire statesmen will get together and turn all these lands of promise into lands of golden realities; for they must ultimately realise that emigration is an Empire job, and then they will tackle it as such instead of tinkering with it; and they will build more than one new England overseas.

That thoughts like these should spring from an experiment in Middlesex schools with educational films may seem far from realities, but I do not think they are as far as some people may suppose. For education is not merely the deliberate and conscious instruction of growing minds.

There is a big surplus of impression that comes by itself, and who shall say that, among those children who to-day are seeing these pictures of the Empire in the thousand odd schools of Britain which are showing them, there is not the statesman who will one day lead his country from the Slough of Despond into the rich sunshine of the Promised Land?

The Human Machine

CHANGE THAT MIND!

ONE of the things for which women are notorious is the facility with which they "change their minds." Men are supposed to be immune from the disease. Whether they are or not is doubtful. If they really are the wisdom of their immunity is still more doubtful.

For an ability to "change one's mind" is evidence, not of inability to think, but of ability to think courageously. Often derided as proof of a volatile nature it is frequently proof of the very reverse.

People like to boast that they have an "open" mind—but how can they have an open mind unless they are prepared to change their opinions and revise their decisions if and when fresh facts are brought to their notice?

People who refuse to change their minds either have minds that have ceased to grow and develop, or minds that have atrophied through sheer disuse. It is nothing to be proud of.

If you are not prepared to change your mind, you confess yourself uninterested in, and impervious to, new ideas. You confess yourself incapable of progress. You admit yourself to be in a rut.

"What I have said I have said," is the motto of a stupid mind, a conceited mind, a mind whose vision is afflicted with an inward squint. The clever mind, the mind with real breadth and vision, sees no shame at all in saying: "What I have said I will unsay the minute you give me some convincing reason for so doing."

Most people shirk the trouble of thinking again. Most, in fact, try to dodge even the trouble of thinking at all.

Listen-in next Sunday, December 27th, at 10-30 P.M. to the "John Bull" Concert from RADIO PARIS and win £500

BE ready next Sunday for a Radio thrill. At 10.30 p.m. "John Bull" will broadcast from Radio Paris the first of a series of magnificent Concerts. Below you will find a list of the ten Gramophone Records which have been selected for the first "John Bull" Sunday Evening Wireless Concert. By listening-in to these records you will not only have a wonderful entertainment but you will be given the opportunity of WINNING A PRIZE OF £500. All that you are asked to do is to select eight out of the ten records and place them in what you consider is their order of entertainment value.

Consider which of the records which you hear played provides the best entertainment. If you have an ear for attractive "turns" here is your opportunity to use your judgment and skill and win £500.

In initiating this great series of Sunday Concerts for the public, "John Bull" makes history for British listeners. It is providing high-class entertainment which both you and your family and your friends will enjoy.

The Competition, in which £500 Must Be Won, is something new in Radio—it is a fascinating Sunday Evening pastime which you will thoroughly enjoy.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONCERT ON SUNDAY NEXT, "JOHN BULL" HAS ARRANGED FOR THE WORLD-FAMOUS ENTERTAINERS, FLOTSAM AND JETSAM, TO APPEAR IN PERSON AND TO DIRECT THE ENTERTAINMENT. These Concerts will be broadcast from Paris on 80-85 kilowatt power so that they can easily be received by all listeners in every part of the Country.

Flotsam and Jetsam who will broadcast in person in the "John Bull" Concert from Radio Paris on Sunday next.

This is a feast of music and song that you must not miss—so between now and Sunday night make sure that you can get Radio Paris easily on your Wireless Set.

You will find two Entry Forms below, either or both of which you can use. Rules and Conditions appear on the left. The contest for which £500 is being awarded is simplicity itself. There are no claims required.

"John Bull" proposes for the entertainment of British Listeners to broadcast these concerts from Radio Paris every week until further notice, so make a note of the time. Invite your friends and settle down every Sunday at 10.30 p.m. to a pleasant hour's entertainment.

Norman Long, the famous entertainer, has been engaged to appear in person on Sunday, January 3rd. Make a note of it!

Rules and Conditions.

(1) On this page will be found a list of ten Gramophone Records, which will be broadcast from Radio Paris on Sunday, December 27th, and again on Sunday, January 3rd, commencing 10.30 p.m. Listen-in to these records—select what you consider are the best eight in their order of entertainment value—then fill in your selections accordingly on the Entry Forms provided, or on a blank piece of paper the size of a postcard. When this contest is closed—that is after all entries have been received—these records will be judged by a committee of three entertainment experts, who will place the eight selected as the best in their order of entertainment value. "John Bull" will pay the sum of £500 in cash to the entrant whose selection on one form agrees or most nearly agrees with the award of the experts. The judges will award the prize to the entrant whose placings of the entertainment value of the eight records selected correctly proceeds furthest down the list in accordance with the order decided upon by the committee of experts.

The decision of the Committee of experts in connection with Contest No. 1 will be published in the issue of "John Bull" on sale January 14th. The name of the winner will be announced in "John Bull," on sale January 21st.

(2) Entry Form must be filled in by the entrant in ink, and must not be mutilated or altered or left incomplete.

(3) Entrant's name and usual address must be written as directed on all Entry Forms. Each Entry Form must be cut out and must have one 1½d. stamp affixed to the space provided thereon. Entries may also be sent in on plain paper, the same size as an ordinary postcard, enclosed in an envelope, but each entry must have a 1½d. stamp affixed.

(4) The entrant may enclose all his attempts in one envelope, which must reach the address below not later than noon, Thursday, January 7th

RADIO CONTEST No. 1,
"John Bull,"
3, Arne Street,
London, W.C.2 (Comp.)

(5) Proof of posting is not proof of delivery, and no responsibility is undertaken for any entry form or claim lost, delayed, not delivered, or mislaid, and no correspondence will be entered into.

(6) In the event of a tie or ties, the £500 prize will be equally divided. No entrant can win more than one share of the prize.

(7) The Editor of John Bull reserves the right to disqualify any entrant for reasons which he considers good and sufficient.

(8) Entrants are required to accept as final the result of our careful searches and entries are accepted only on this condition.

(9) Employees of "John Bull" and associated companies and members of their families are not allowed to compete.

(10) Failure to comply with any of the above rules involves disqualification.

NO CLAIMS REQUIRED

How to Get Radio Paris

If you possess a valve set of ordinary efficiency you will be able to tune in easily for the "John Bull" Concert at 10.30 p.m. on Sunday.

Ascertain what Radio Paris is transmitting to night and experiment with your Set. Radio Paris transmits on a Wave Length of 1725 metres. If you are able to get Daventry, which broadcasts on a Wave Length of 1554 metres, you should be able to obtain Radio Paris quite easily.

The best way to tune in Radio Paris is to set the tuning dials of your Set as for Daventry—1554 metres on the Long Wave, then tune to a slightly higher reading on the scale until you hear another station, then by use of reaction—if necessary—bring in Radio Paris, 1725 metres, which, as you will see, is just above the Wave Length of Daventry.

Here are the Ten Records!

Below is a list of the ten Gramophone Records which will be broadcast from Radio Paris on Sunday Evening, December 27th and again on January 3rd, commencing 10.30 p.m. When filling in your Entry Form quote only the "key" NUMBERS of the Records you Select.

Key No.

1. **CAVALCADE** (*1st Record*) (H.M.V., C2289)
   Played by the NEW MAYFAIR ORCHESTRA.
2. **RIVER STAY 'WAY FROM MY DOOR** (H.M.V., B3956)
   Sung by PAUL ROBESON.
3. **SERENADE** (Columbia, DB 469)
   (*Heykens*) *Violin Solo by* ALBERT SANDLER.
4. **VIENNA, CITY OF MY DREAMS** (H.M.V., DA 1239)
   Sung by RICHARD CROOKS.
5. **MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY** (Columbia, DB 661)
   Banjo Solo by EDDIE PEABODY.
6. **CHE GELIDA MANINA**
   Sung by GIGLI. (H.M.V., DB 1538)
7. **GOT A DATE WITH AN ANGEL** (Zonophone, 5993)
   Played by JACK HYLTON.
8. **VIKTORIA & HER HUSSAR** (H.M.V., B.3957)
   Pianoforte Solo by RAIE DA COSTA.
9. **OH, SAILOR BEHAVE** (H.M.V., B.3912)
   Sung by GRACIE FIELDS.
10. **BLUE DANUBE** (H.M.V., D.1218)
    Played by the PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA

Make a note to listen-in to the "John Bull" Concerts from Radio Paris every Sunday at 10.30 p.m.

The Ten Records for Concert No. 1 will be Broadcast on December 27th and again on January 3rd—subsequent concerts will be weekly.

On an Entry Form or on a blank piece of paper about the size of a postcard, write your selection of the best eight Gramophone Records in the order of entertainment value: (use key numbers only—see list on left). You may send in as many entries as you wish providing each entry is made on a separate piece of paper and a three-halfpenny stamp affixed to each entry. Give your full name and address on each entry you send in.

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I agree to all rules governing this competition.

AFFIX THREE-HALFPENNY STAMP TO THIS SPACE

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CLOSING DATE NOON, THURSDAY, JAN. 7th.

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CLOSING DATE NOON, THURSDAY, JAN. 7th.

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Drawn by George Whitelaw

Goes on ceaselessly grappling with the weeds

Without Fear or Favour

OUR FIGHT FOR YOU

WEEK by week in this page JOHN BULL has endeavoured to focus its readers' attention upon matters of importance which call for special consideration by our law-makers and public authorities.

Now that the New Year is close upon us, it may be worth while to review some of the campaigns which we have conducted during 1931.

Beyond all doubt, the people of this country have a greater measure of freedom and security than any other.

And yet, with all our privileges, we still have to put up with many glaring injustices, and we still patiently endure numberless petty tyrannies and restrictions.

It is one of our national boasts, for example, that in Great Britain there is but one law for rich and poor alike. That is true in theory and in principle: it is not uniformly true in practice, and never will be until we can reduce the present ruinous cost of litigation.

Ruinous divorce

DURING the year we have repeatedly drawn attention to the scandalous cost of the law, and more than one judge, speaking from the Bench, has denounced the same evil.

Only the other day at Edmonton County Court, Judge Crawford said: "It is appalling to think that undefended divorce proceedings cost as much as £93." He was right; it *is* appalling, for it means that hundreds of unhappy husbands and wives, clearly entitled to their freedom under the law, simply cannot afford to secure it.

Beyond all argument, here is a state of affairs which calls for reform. But we go farther than that. We urge the need for drastic changes in the law itself.

On humane grounds and in the interest of public morality, we should certainly make complete desertion a ground for divorce. Scotland, which has done so since 1573, sets England an example in this matter.

Famous legal authorities, like Lord Buckmaster and the late Lord Birkenhead, were strongly in favour of granting divorce after three years' desertion. But the law has not yet been changed, and thousands of unhappy men and women throughout the country are the victims of its absolute tyranny.

JOHN BULL has also called attention to other much-needed reforms in our divorce laws. Because we regard marriage as the basis of decent society, we are all the more anxious to put an end to the mockery of certain marriage ties where no true union is possible.

Incurable insanity or imprisonment under a life sentence ought at once to be recognised as valid grounds for divorce.

There are many parasites who prey upon the institution of marriage and who deserve a more withering rigour than the law at present exerts.

The professional bigamist is one of these, and no more degraded or heartless scoundrel exists. The "matrimonial" Press is another, and it, with the brokers who run these agencies, should have been swept out of existence long ago.

Another type is the foreigner who arranges the "marriages" of the foreign women of easy virtue to British ne'er-do-wells in order that they may carry on their trade without the ever-present risk of deportation.

On all these matters JOHN BULL has expressed a forcible opinion, and on one occasion at least we have upheld our exposure in the Courts. And we can derive some gratification from the fact that in some directions the law and the vigilance of the police have been considerably strengthened.

Lunacy inquisition

BUT, however necessary it is to draw attention to loopholes in the law which permit the cunning and the unscrupulous to exploit the weak or unwary, how much more imperative is it to fight with the utmost vigour when the law itself assumes the attitude of a harsh and unscrupulous tyrant.

Our readers will know of the unceasing battle we have waged against that autocratic body, the Lunacy Board of Control.

To describe them as an "autocratic body" is a mild expression.

It is no exaggeration to say that, short of the rack and the stake, their powers and the secrecy of their undertakings afford the closest parallel in our twentieth-century England to the black tyranny of the Inquisition.

We have given such instances of their cruel power, of their methods, bereft alike apparently of human pity, charity and justice, as would be beyond belief were it not for the unassailable evidence we have adduced to support our charges.

Little by little, we have gained some ground on the issues we raised against the Board of Control. Here and there some poor victim of the 20,000 they hold has been released after spending a childhood and youth incarcerated among lunatics.

Now and then we have by our exposures and criticism compelled them to release their grasp on some child victim, marked down for them by the inane barbarity of the Mental Deficiency Acts which they administer.

The fight has been a long one, but we shall pursue it with redoubled vigour, because of these successes, which we count as the beginning of the end of an intolerable wrong.

Among other matters to which we have drawn attention during this year is that concerning the employment of women, especially in shops.

It has taken a Parliamentary Committee forty years to endorse a medical verdict made all those years ago that eight hours daily was the maximum time during which labour by young persons should be carried on in shops.

But there is still no Act on the Statute Book to carry this principle into practice. There are nearly 2,000,000 shop assistants in this country, but still no legal limitation to shop assistants' hours, except that imposed in 1892. That applies only to persons under 18; and for those, hours *are limited to 74 a week!*

While the great majority of shopkeepers in this country are fair and just to their employees, the absence of any law on the point allows the sweat-shop proprietor to exploit his workers to his pocket's full content.

Willed into poverty

ANOTHER question which requires some much-needed Parliamentary action is the cruel and stupid law which allows a husband to will the whole of his property away from his wife at his own whim.

There have been many instances lately where a husband has rewarded a wife's long service by leaving all his property to a mistress or distant relative, and the wife has been left to end her days in penury.

In the present state of Parliament, with a small and almost ineffective Opposition, it is more than ever necessary to press for reforms such as these, particularly since many of them had already been cast in the form of Bills, doomed, however, by the passing of the last Government.

Finally, there are the many glaring openings in the structure of our Companies Acts and the Bankruptcy Acts which have, for a long time, allowed scoundrels and thieves to plunder their fellow men.

These have received full measure of criticism and opinion in JOHN BULL, and we are glad to see the tightening up which has recently taken place in these Acts. Much, however, still remains to be done before the investor is fully protected and the machinery of business can function freely and honestly.

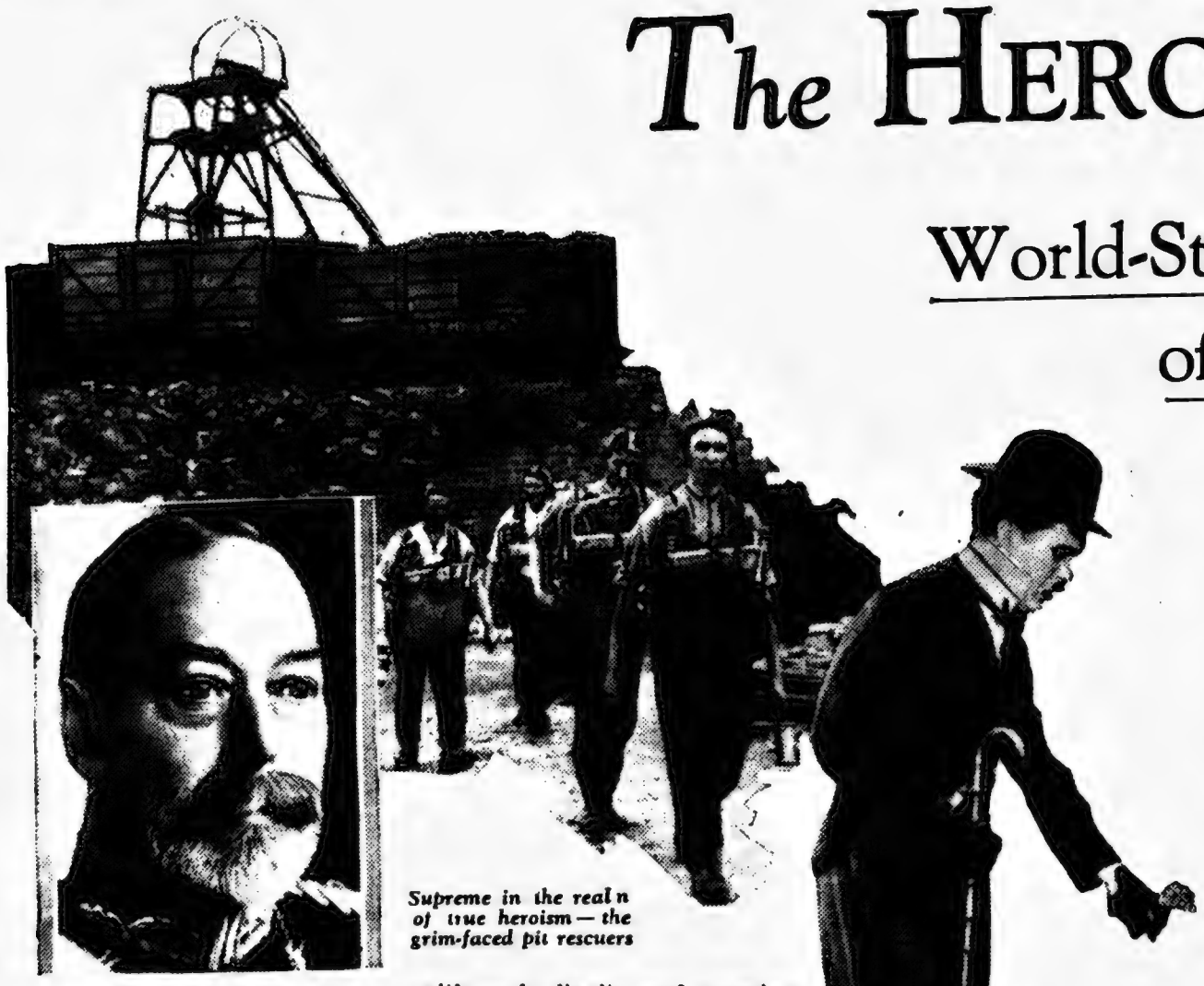
To sum up, the year, dark as it has been with political crises and financial and industrial depression, can yet mark a considerable step forward in enlightenment, and in the abatement of many social evils.

In the future work which still remains to be done JOHN BULL will continue to play its part and endeavour always to abide by its guiding creed, "For the people—the right to justice and truth."

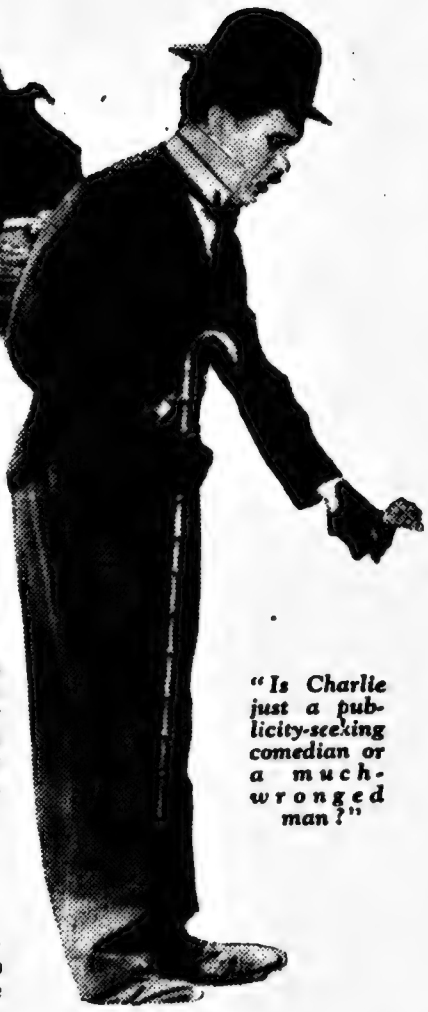
The HEROES and—

World-Stage Players of the Old Year

When kingdoms rocked and monarchs toppled his place remained, immovable



Supreme in the realm of true heroism—the grim-faced pit rescuers



"Is Charlie just a publicity-seeking comedian or a much-wronged man?"

HISTORY has an unhappy knack of making great contemporary events look small, and elevating unsuspected figures to the Halls of Fame.

Who could have dared to say—at the time—that the voyage of Christopher Columbus would have been the one event in all the exciting year of 1492 to be remembered by posterity? Or that June 28, 1914, when the Archduke Ferdinand and his wife were murdered at Sarajevo, was destined to become one of the blackest dates in the history of the world?

A monarch's part

It is indeed frightening to observe the often mild reactions which the most catastrophic occurrences have produced on the public mind of the moment.

Thus, while the year is still with us, a search for the true heroes and villains of the great melodrama called "*The World: 1931*" is an ambitious—perhaps foolhardy—venture to undertake.

Yet, adopting the process of starting with the heroes, and starting at the top of the social structure, it is really quite easy to pick at least on one outstanding personality of the year.

For it is difficult to see how history can minimise the part played by His Majesty King George the Fifth, of Great Britain, Ireland, and of the British Dominions, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

Few monarchs—of any age—have so earned the respect and affection of their subjects, or carried out their constitutional duties with such dignity and conscientious sense of responsibility.

There were days during the crisis of four months ago when the world limelight played fiercely around him. But, while politicians were in public disfavour, the King held inviolate the trust of the great mass of the nation's millions of citizens.

Self-effacing king

In this age of indiscreet revelations and memoirs one has come to suspect that there is always more going on behind the scenes than before the curtain. Even as recently as the reign of King Edward VII the Sovereign had been known to put spokes in the political wheels to satisfy personal ideals.

Yet the completely judicial manner in which our rather self-effacing monarch handled the reins of power is a factor to which all the members of the late Labour Cabinet will gladly testify. By neither word nor gesture did the King reveal his own personal views as to the rights or wrongs of the contesting parties.

Here, then, is at least one figure of whom history will say that in 1931 he strengthened the British Monarchy during a year which saw the culmination of a long, long line of lost thrones—the deposing of King Alfonso of Spain.

Let us now turn to the sphere of speed, whose high priests occupy much the same position in the public eye to-day as did the gladiators of Rome two thousand years ago.

Forgotten top-liners

Yet it is open to doubt whether many of the flyers—of both sexes—and automobile drivers whose exploits now seem so thrilling will survive the test of time.

The name of Bleriot will, truly, always bear the imprint awarded to, and deserved by, the pioneer; Alcock's and Brown's trans-Atlantic flight in 1919 is sure of a niche in the temple of posterity; the verve of Lindbergh's lone flight; the spectacle of Amy Johnson's Australian dash—all these will remain.

But, so fast does the science of speed improve upon itself, that records seem to be made only to be broken on the morrow.

Two "speed" careers, however, reached a climax during 1931: those of Sir Malcolm Campbell and Mr. Bert Hinkler.

The pathetic clown

Theirs are no flash-in-the-pan achievements, but monuments of grit and patience in the face of many disappointments. Mr. Kaye Don's exploits also enhanced his reputation, even if they did not add to the world's store of scientific knowledge.

As to all the other heroes and heroines of the year's newspaper columns, how many can one remember offhand to-day? No matter how courageous their exploits, the public's taste for speed and air adventures seems to have reached a temporary saturation point.

No; this sphere of modern activity has produced few outstanding figures during 1931, and probably none to be eventually remembered.

One of the saddest of the victims of the "front page" adulations of the Press has been Mr. Charles Spencer Chaplin, who stepped on to his native soil from America last February bearing his British passport.

Is "Charlie" just a publicity-seeking comedian or a much-wronged man? Should he have fought in the War? Or did he do more good by making the men in the trenches laugh?

These are questions which have afforded an interesting sidelight on the psychology of the British people during the year, and culminated in the recent case in which the judge made some remarks upon the great film comedian that, to a dispassionate observer, savoured of discourtesy.

Rusty men of iron

In the days when mediæval barons employed jesters to enliven their evenings, the fate of the funny men seemed seldom in doubt: when they fell from favour they usually fell also through trap-doors—at the end of a rope!

So it seems that the ancient and cruel game of Baiting the Jester is not dead. For no man has tried more to please his countrymen, yet failed, than Chaplin the comedian.

Now he has slipped quietly out of the country . . . and gone abroad ski-ing.

Three "leading men" of the melodramas of other years seem also to have failed in the task of sustaining their former reputations.

These three are Stalin, the head of the Russian Soviet; Mussolini, the Fascist Dictator of Italy; and Mustafa Kemal, the President of Turkey, who wears a top hat and frock coat on all conceivable occasions, and frowns on the tarbush and robes of his Turkish ancestors.

The first, Stalin, is still a mystery man, hidden in the Kremlin from the gaze of even the faithful.

His Five-years Plan to whip the Oriental sloth of the Russian peasant mind into progressive activity is still just as much in doubt as ever.

Hoover, haverer?

Is Stalin a fiend in human shape? A great man aspiring to high ideals, even if forced to use inhuman means to reach his end? A man obedient to the will of other men even more mysterious than himself?

Or a man, groping in ignorance, whom only the march of events will educate?

History can only decide the importance of the year 1931 to the new Russia in the light of years

Villains of 1931

They surprised the world. But whether they're heroes or villain depends on the side you're on . . .

that are yet to come. Certain it is that nothing of significance has emerged from the world's largest country during the past twelve months.

That is also true of an Italy and Turkey, progressing only with the impetus received when Mussolini and Mustafa Kemal were younger men, their ideas of national reform yet to be carried out.

Not even the President of the United States—the arch-dictator of the world—has made any pronouncement, or achieved any constructive improvement worthy of being termed epoch-making.

Mars glowers

The two most consistently sinister figures of the year are those old stable-companions—Mars and Mammon.

The former has at last decided openly to challenge the rights of the League of Nations to maintain world peace.

While never entirely absent since that last orgy which terminated in November, 1918, the God of War's bitter attack on Geneva was made from the Manchurian front. Nor can it be written that the League has been able to extricate itself from the Japan-China quarrel with any credit to its claims as peacemaker.

Yet, in the annals of the late Mr. Woodrow Wilson's idealistic hybrid, it is certain that 1931 will occupy a prominent position.

As for Mammon, the monster of greed has run amok, leaving crashed currencies in its trail, and poverty and distress in a world suffering from a super-abundance of natural fruits.

The question of whether or not gold is a satisfactory metal on which to base the international monetary system is, indeed, the paramount problem of the year. And the pound sterling is the central figure in the puzzle.

Millions of words have been written to explain the present financial crisis, and millions more will be penned before stability is reached.

The limelight dims . . . Stalin—fiend or idealist? Montagu Norman—a shy manner, an iron soul; Alfonso, the man who was a king; Mussolini—his thunder's a rumble. And the most stupendous eclipse of all, the fade-out of the pound

The bearded sphinx

But one does not need to be a particularly astute prophet to predict that any future summary of world events during the twentieth century will contain some such sentence as: "*The crisis which was provoked by the Wall Street stock market crash early in* 1929 *was intensified during* 1930, *and reached a climax in the decision made by Great Britain in September*, 1931, *to go off the gold standard. . . .*"

Coupled with the symbolic figure of Mammon must be the gentle little quixotic-looking man who is the present Governor of the Bank of England, Mr. Montagu Norman.

Despite his ill-advised championship of the gold standard in 1925, he has retained his power for longer than any of his distinguished predecessors.

In an age which is not over-kind to secret diplomacy, and in which modern newspapers have permitted the constitutional conduct of the State to be carried through only with a maximum of refreshing publicity, Mr. Norman flits to and fro, making answer to no man.

Heroism's legion

What an oddly-assorted pageant of personalities we have already collected!

A great monarch, an unhappy comedian, a deposed king, the twin monsters Mars and Mammon, a banker with a shy manner and an iron soul . . .

Who else is there standing in the wings?

When it comes to the realm of true heroism, the players in the pageant of 1931 are legion. It would need scores of columns to print even the bare names of the men and women whose moral courage in the face of difficulties has entitled their conduct to be acclaimed as "heroic."

There have been twenty-five colliery accidents this year: in each case there have been examples of heroism which, if displayed on the field of battle, would deserve the honour of the Victoria Cross.

When twenty-seven men were killed at the Haig Pit in Whitehaven, Cumberland, last September; when eight miners perished in the depths of the Newdigate Pit in Warwickshire; when forty were entombed in the Bentley Colliery at Doncaster; and when a subterranean explosion claimed the lives of ten more at the Bowhill Colliery in Fifeshire—in every case there were more volunteers for the dangers of rescue work than there was rescue work to do.

The Bowhill Colliery explosion shook the little town, and the rescue parties were at work even before the cloud of smoke had cleared away.

Digging, climbing, hacking their way along the galleries, these brave miners got as near to their friends as was humanly possible. They took ten canaries with them down the mine; but all ten canaries died.

Untold sagas

For several hours they fought grimly on to save their entombed comrades, who were, alas! already dead.

And at the pit-head stood little groups of sad-eyed women, checking back their tears . . . . the widows, facing lives of even greater poverty with courage.

If these are not true heroes and heroines the words have lost their meaning. Yet how many more—how many million more—stories of unswerving courage remain unwritten?

For every one whose bravery, like that of Petty Officer Willis in the sunken submarine *Poseidon*, reaches the ears of the world, how many thousands of cases of heroism are there amongst those who go down to the sea in ships?

Heroism and villainy have their representatives in the limelight; but it is in the shadows of the soul that the true stories of courage are written.

History, after all, really tells us so little of what goes on.

"The Best Christmas List that H.M.V. or any other company has ever produced."

Christopher Stone, in the "Daily Mirror," December 4th.

Peter Dawson
Friend o' mine — Shipmates o' mine B3839, 2/6
Rolling down to Rio — Old Jim's Christmas Hymn B3860, 2/6

Temple Church Choir
See amid the winter's snow; Christmas Lullaby—Lullay my liking; There is no rose of such virtue B3976, 2/6

Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra
(Conducted by Leopold Stokowski)
Finlandia — Tone Poem DB1531, 6/-

Richard Crooks
Vienna, City of my dreams — I'll always be true DA1239, 4/-

Ambrose and His Orchestra
If you were the only girl in the world — They didn't believe me B6077, 2/6

Old-Time Singers
Daisy Bell; After the Ball; Two Little Girls in Blue B3966, 2/6

Try your fortune
Part 1—Ladies. Part 2—Gentlemen
Jack and Claude Hulbert B3979, 2/6
Jolly Good Company — It always starts to rain B4003, 2/6

Gracie Fields
Life's desire — They all fall in love but me B3000, 2/6

Jack Hylton and His Orchestra
Further Old Songs C2307, 4/-

Minstrel Show of 1931
English Minstrels with Alexander and Mose C2305, 4/-

Band of H.M. Coldstream Guards
Selection of Wilfred Sanderson's Songs
Harry Lauder C2296, 4/-
I'd love to be a sailor — She's the lass for me D1968, 6/-

Limerick Puzzle Record
Spoken by Claude Hulbert B3986, 2/6

New Mayfair Dance Orchestra
Rhymes B6090, 2/6

De Groot and New Victoria Orch.
Other Days (Selection of Popular Melodies) C2281, 4/-

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Full details on Page 14

A Woman's Sixth Sense Divines—

"I cut short the call in a most gratifying manner."

OBVIOUSLY, I could give you the exact date of these happenings. You would then easily be able to check up on them and discover for yourself just who this first murderer of mine was.

But I'm not going to. I realise there must be few things more heartbreaking to the respectable relatives of a criminal who has stood, hopelessly, in the shadow of the gallows than the way such a family skeleton and its invariably terribly fascinating history so continually crops up in the published reminiscences of famous lawyers and Scotland Yard men.

Nor would I be writing this at all if it were not for the fact that it gave a severe jolt to what were certain firmly fixed notions of mine about the truth of the theory crediting a woman with some strong instinct which enables her to know when a blackguard has evil designs on her.

The queer thing is that at the time the first part of this rather sordid experience of mine took place I was engaged in arguing about the alleged female instinct in the columns of the Sunday newspaper, now defunct, to which I was contributing weekly.

* * *

WELL, let me get down to the story.

Like most writing folk, I loathe the actual physical drudgery in reproducing ideas on to paper. And only those who earn their daily bread by their pen or typewriter know just how wearying such drudgery can be.

Therefore, being always on the lookout for some magic means which will make the actual transcription of ideas easier, I got not a little excited when I saw that an American electric typewriter was on the British market.

It seemed that all you had to do was to plug in, tap the keys with an effortless butterfly touch, and your electric current, the noble machine and your afflatus did the rest.

It looked good to me. I wrote in and asked for particulars.

In the distinctly annoying way some business firms have, early the next morning produced not merely particulars per post, but the machine itself, accompanied by the salesman and a boy.

I was mildly put out. As I try to keep office hours at home I make it a point of insisting on appointments convenient to myself.

However, there was no help for it. The two were on the doorstep and their small, shabby car stood panting on the kerb. Besides, I was naturally anxious to try out this time and energy saver. Nevertheless, I addressed a few sharp remarks to the salesman on the subject of such minor, sharp, commercial practices.

He seemed to think, however, that his firm's kind intentions of letting me have the machine for a week on trial without any obligations on my part would or should amply compensate me for the inconvenience they were causing me.

The boy carried the machine into my sitting-room, and was then ordered to go out and wait in the car.

From the moment the salesman and I were shut in that room together I began to be afraid of him.

He was a tall, not bad-looking chap with exceptionally cold blue eyes. Ice-cold eyes.

Even at that early stage I remembered having read that all the worst crimes have been committed by blue-eyed men.

At first glance he appeared smart, but the quick once-over of any woman would soon have detected the little shabby signs.

A darn on his shirt below his collar. Shoes worn very thin. Too thin. A suspicion of shine under the jacket sleeves and at the seat of his overcoat. An obviously home-laundered handkerchief.

In short, the needy-smartness of many thousands of salesmen who have to keep up appearances on very slender means.

HE was exceptionally well and soft-spoken, and terribly in earnest about his job of work.

I admired him for that. I've got a tender spot in my heart for most salesmen and canvassers. There are few harder or more heart-breaking ways of earning a living.

But there was that soft, almost caressingly-persistent voice, and there were those unimaginably icy eyes. The contrast was most disturbing.

The more he talked about the qualities of the machine he was demonstrating the more fearful of him I grew.

After less than ten minutes of listening to his line of talk I found myself desiring above all other things to get him out of my house.

I was alone in it at the time, and it was an almost evilly dark, damp, foggy morning. A *lonely*, unusually quiet sort of day. Anything could have happened—murder, rapine, and the murderer or ravisher, or both, could have vanished into the fog-enclosed world

Give Us Pantomime!

Who amongst our readers would like to see a jolly good pantomime this Christmas *on the screen?*

Why is it that kinema programmes never bill "Cinderella," "Puss in Boots," or even the immortal "Peter Pan"? Why don't the big film directors give us a taste of the Land of Make-Believe? —and cash in?

The Picturegoer, on sale Thursday, December 24, has some illuminating things to say on this subject, which will interest you.

—Evil in a Stranger's Blue Eyes

MY FIRST MURDERER

by JANE DOE

and no one would have been any the wiser.

I was positively physically ill at ease and most wretchedly nervous, the more so because it seemed as if I was finding my senses being additionally rapidly overwhelmed by a most poignant sort of sympathy.

It was as if the man was in the direst trouble—almost tragic trouble. Something urged me to help him all I could.

I believe now that urge emanated entirely from him. He was *willing* me to exercise my pity. I believe this salesman whose eyes glittered like bits of blue ice under the light of my electric bowl had a snake-like, hypnotic power to get me to do anything he wanted me to.

Kiss him. Bestow on him all the money I had in the house; my small collection of unremarkable jewels, my modest bits of silver. Anything he wanted. Love him. Marry him, even.

I was afraid, not so much of what he would do to me as for what I would do for him.

How painfully I was made aware that horrible, pea-soup foggy morning, when we two were alone together in a fog-dimmed house, of just what those poor women dupes of the bigamist I had been writing about the previous Sunday went through.

And then something saved me.

We both heard a key in the front door. It was my household assistant returning from shopping.

* * *

IT broke the spell. For that day, at least.

Abruptly I cut short the already prolonged interview. My customary will-power had returned.

As I escorted him out into the hall I saw him look enquiringly up at a man's bowler hat my mother and I always kept prominently on the hall-stand.

It had no owner. We displayed it—for protection.

When I shut the door on him I said, "Phew!" Just as if I'd had a narrow escape from death. And then I went and opened wide both the French windows of my sitting-room, letting clouds of raw fog into the room.

He had left behind him a queer odour. It was not a human odour. Something predatory, cruel, vicious. I could imagine that if a starving rattlesnake had been there it would have exuded just such an odious atmosphere.

And then I began to go over the things we had talked about. Or, rather, the things he had willed *me* to talk about. My blood ran cold at the recollection.

It was depressingly apparent to me that in some effortless, non-suspicious way he had managed to worm from me quite an indiscreet account of my private circumstances.

My forehead became as damp as my mouth grew dry.

* * *

I thereupon informed the firm I expected them to fetch the machine the very next day. But I knew I shouldn't get out of it as easily as all that.

The salesman called again, but without his boy or the car. My household assistant, a most intelligent ex-factory girl, dealt with him.

He wouldn't go away. I stood outside my workroom door on the first landing, listening to that soft-spoken tongue of his trying to override the girl's persistent—

"But Miss Doe has got some rush work on. She can't possibly see you," trembling half with rage and half with fear.

The impudence of the man! My cheeks burned.

I had to go down. Again, I don't expect you to believe me, but he kept me talking for one hour. Kept me, I said.

I've never known anything like it in my life.

But something in me held out. My own protective instinct was proving a lot stronger than any evil one of his.

Eventually we got rid of him, and as I turned to my household assistant to tell her that the electric typewriter salesman must never again be allowed to step beyond the front doorstep I was surprised to find her looking white and shaken.

"That man," she cried, "gave me the creeps. I hope I don't get left alone with him again. He's a wrong un, if ever there was one."

"Nonsense," I answered her as cheerfully as I could. "He's just a poor devil who wanted to make a sale. I feel sorry for him." I saw no good reason for sharing my fears with her.

At lunch-time the next morning he arrived alone in the shabby car and parked it outside the next-door house, beside a pillar-box which had been newly painted the usual cheerful red.

I learnt this to my cost that very morning, when, disregarding the warning notice, I got some of it on the sleeve of my jumper. It made me hopping mad, I can tell you.

The typewriter awaited removal on a small table in the hall. The door was propped wide open, as if the house was being given an airing. I was taking no chances this time.

He was sulky. I expected that. And even in spite of my unmistakable refusal was not inclined to give up hope of a sale.

I was adamant, though, horrible to say, I felt more unbearably sorry for him than ever. That day he looked ill and terribly discouraged. He was like a man who had lately come out of some tremendously devastating body and soul ordeal.

"I can assure you," he insisted, "that any objection can be very easily overcome by a little adjust——"

I interrupted him just at this moment, and found I cut short the call in a most surprising and gratifying manner.

Indeed, from the time I drew his attention to one of his coat sleeves, just as he was putting the cover on the machine, by remarking, "I see you've got some of the red paint from our wet pillar-box on you," until he and the typewriter were rattling away in the car down the road at a most illegal speed, no more than a breathless jiffy seemed to elapse.

I told the maid, "We won't see him any more."

Not many weeks were to elapse when no one was to see him again.

* * *

ONE morning, months after that encounter, a jar of honey was upset in the larder, and I was asked for any newspapers I could spare.

Hastily I ran through a few to see if there was anything in them I needed to keep.

Staring me in the face from the main news page was the picture of the man who had been hanged the previous day for the murder of a lonely housewife, living in one of the newer communities on the outskirts of Greater London.

I don't, as a rule, read the reports of what I call straightforward murders, committed just for the sake of combined blood-lust and robbery.

This, then, explained my almost complete ignorance of that Greater London crime. I had some vague notion that a man, an agent for a line of patent domestic brushes, had murdered the woman in viciously brutal circumstances.

Also, I remembered that he'd been interrupted in his search for her savings, which it was known she kept concealed about the house, and had only time to secure a ten-shilling note.

My brow was again wet and my hands clammy as I hurriedly scanned the report.

Blood on the man's overcoat sleeve, said Sir Bernard Spilsbury, corresponded with the blood of that unhappy woman.

And in an account of the salesman's criminal career, which included two terms of penal servitude for robberies with revolting violence, was the item that among his many activities he acted as agent to a firm selling electric typewriters.

Yes, he was my first murderer.

He committed his last damnable crime, for which he was hanged, *just one hour before he called on me to collect that typewriter!*

* * *

I DIDN'T show this newspaper to my domestic assistant. I didn't want to blight her life, nor did I want her to blight the lives of her family and her friends by boasting that she knew a murderer when she saw one.

So I handed her instead that day's *Times*, containing nothing more revolting than an unabridged report of Mr. Winston Churchill's Budget.

And after she'd gone, I'm not ashamed to say I went down on my knees and offered up a prayer of infinite thanks. *That I, too, possessed a protective instinct, enabling me to know a bad man when I met one.*

Next week:

A. J. CRONIN

the young Scottish doctor who found fame in a day when he published his first novel, "Hatter's Castle," writes a Real Life Story for JOHN BULL next week—

The Third Ingredient

—the record of an amazing series of events which followed the compounding of a very strange mixture.

Daughter of Mrs. Fahey, Salford.

Salford Doctor finds Remedy for Croup

Mrs. Fahey reports:—"Baby had a dreadful attack of croup and we got the doctor. Under his directions, we rubbed her with Vick brand Vapour-Rub and he said that the results were wonderful. She soon went to sleep and woke in the morning well."

Rubbed on the throat and chest "Vick" gives quick relief for spasmodic croup; being used externally, it is safe for the youngest child.

Salve Acts in 2 Ways.

Rubbed on at night for colds, it has a double action—(1) as a vapour, inhaled direct to the inflamed air-passages; (2) through the skin, like a poultice.

Regular size now only 2/-; half size 1/3, at all chemists.

VICK BRAND VAPOUR-RUB

Best for Children's Colds

Just as one great man will dominate a crowd, so does a PERTRIX Dry Battery stand out from all others—in performance and in length of life.

And the PERTRIX Accumulator, built as it is, on more than forty years' experience in the manufacture of storage batteries, is a worthy companion to its 'Dry relation.'

All 'good' dealers sell PERTRIX.

BRITANNIA BATTERIES LTD.,

PERTRIX

SUPER LIFE DRY BATTERIES & ACCUMULATORS

THE PERFECT PAIR FOR PERFECT RADIO

Advt. of Pertrix Ltd., Britannia House, 233, Shaftesbury Ave., London, W.C.2
Telephone: Temple Bar 7971 (3 lines). Works: Redditch

Tragic INCOME-TAX *Disclosures*

IN previous years, even when income tax was at the rate of 6s. in the £, the British taxpayer, although hard hit, was not the type of individual to allow his January income tax instalment to interfere with his Christmas joy.

But this year the burden of taxation is not only very much greater to those who paid tax last January, but there are also approximately two million new taxpayers affected.

An examination of thousands of letters from readers asking for advice on their income tax assessments, shows one perfectly obvious thing: the British public is facing this burden cheerfully and is determined to make sacrifices in order to pay up as soon as possible.

At the same time, millions of people have been forced to look into their income tax assessments and the allowances and reliefs granted them very much more carefully than in years gone by. Thousands of cases of real hardship—particularly as regards the two million new taxpayers—have thus come to light.

Taken in the mass, these cases prove that the whole system of personal allowances needs thoroughly overhauling, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer could go a long way to gladden the hearts of those who have been penalised by the stupidity of present income tax legislation if he will announce that, in framing his next Finance Act, he will make a thorough overhaul of personal allowances.

You must be married—

If he wants evidence of how to do this and where to make his alterations, JOHN BULL can furnish him with hundreds of really genuine cases. Here are a few:—

A single man is entitled to a personal allowance of £100 and a married man to one of £150. There is no "married" relief afforded to a man living with a woman other than his wife, however extenuating the circumstances may be.

A woman living in Leeds was deserted by her husband ten years ago and has heard nothing of him since. Furthermore, she has not received one penny towards her maintenance. Three years ago she met a single man and they decided to live together as man and wife. They have now got a nice home together and are living happily.

Nothing for these kiddies

This man is taxed as a single man and is informed by the inspector of taxes that, unless his partner obtains a divorce, he cannot claim any additional relief.

The wife of a married man in Manchester ran away to Australia with another man and left her husband with two young children. After some years he met another woman, who agreed to live with him and also to look after these children. These two people now have three children of their own under the age of sixteen who are well cared for both as regards comfort and education by the father.

But the father cannot obtain any relief in respect of the mother of these three children, either as personal allowance or as a housekeeper, nor can he obtain any children's allowance, although they are his own. He is informed by the Inland Revenue officials that they are *illegitimate*.

The dependent relative allowance of £25 is granted to a taxpayer who maintains at his own expense a relative who, either by reason of old age or infirmity, is unable to maintain himself or herself. Here is a typical case of the hardship experienced in this direction:

A twenty-five-years' old clerk in Swansea, who earns £4 5s. per week, maintains a widowed mother of forty-eight who has no income, an unmarried sister who is twenty-two, and two young brothers aged nineteen and seventeen, all of whom are out of work and without unemployment relief.

Pluck doesn't count

This plucky young fellow is the sole support of these four people, and yet he cannot obtain any relief whatever because he is told that his mother and sister are neither infirm nor aged, and that no relief is possible in respect of a brother.

Here is yet another case: A small trader, who cannot afford to employ a part-time bookkeeper or a chartered accountant and knows little about book-keeping himself, is invariably assessed at a figure above the true profits which he makes.

For example, the actual takings during the year ending December 31st, of a small general dealer in Reading amounted to £246, out of which he made a gross profit of, approximately, 33⅓ per cent., i.e., £82. The rent and his expenses amounted to £30. Thus he was left with £1 per week to keep himself.

He didn't know how

He did not keep proper accounts because he did not know how, but the records he did keep were accurate and true. The Inland Revenue assessed him upon a profit of £200. He was told to appeal against this assessment if he did not agree.

He appeared before the commissioners, and the assessment was reduced to £150 profit in view of the statements which he made; but he was informed that this figure would not be further reduced unless he employed an accountant to audit his books.

This man is a widower without children, and his personal reliefs amount to £110. He is therefore asked to pay tax on £40 at 2s. 6d. in the £, but, apart from this, it cannot be denied that he is actually *assessed* on nearly £100 more than he made. This sort of thing must be put right at once.

The January 1st deluge is so sudden, Mr. Chancellor—can't a bewildered new taxpayer shelter under that umbrella for a while?

The weekly wage earner, who has received a half-yearly assessment for the period of April to October last, must pay the whole of the assessment to January 1. He is therefore paying tax on his income to October 5 last, and he should realise that he is more fortunate than the person who is assessed annually.

The latter, by reason of the fact that he has to pay three-quarters of the tax on January 1, is paying tax up to December 31.

In the case of a person assessed half yearly, he should take advantage of the fact that he can apply to the income tax collector before January 1 and obtain an income tax stamp form. By doing this he can pay his income tax in *thirteen weekly instalments* by going to the Post Office every Saturday and buying income tax stamps.

The person who is assessed annually and has three-quarters of the tax to pay on January 1, has in effect to the end of March to make this payment, and he should write immediately to the collector, making some definite offer to pay in instalments over this period.

No whips, please

Income tax collectors have a definite duty to perform, and a difficult one at that. Let them perform this duty humanely; let them forget that they are "red tape" officials; let them try to understand the tremendous difficulties of the taxpayer in meeting the amounts which are demanded of him.

Let them realise that the income tax payer is ready to shoulder his burden, but that he cannot be driven.

Then they will find that they obtain compensation for their frayed nerves in the gratitude of the most honest and decent citizen in the world—the British taxpayer.

Only Seven More Days

Only seven more days and JOHN BULL'S Great Christmas Gift Offer will have vanished. A 5s. Pen and Pencil Outfit for 2s. 6d.—a 10s. Writing Set *de luxe* for 5s.—which will you have?

Cash the Coupons you will find on page 30. Hurry!

A WICKED WOMAN *in* Black

NUMEROUS people are anxiously enquiring for an attractive young woman in black, who goes by the name of Miss Ethel Barnes, and who claims to have inherited a handsome legacy from her father.

She was in Petersfield recently, staying in great style at a local hotel, and posing as an inspector from the London office of the Pearl Assurance Co., Ltd.

Every morning Miss Barnes would leave the hotel with her attaché case for the ostensible purpose of interviewing policy-holders in the district.

As she became known to the management she confided that she was making a special tour in the country on her employers' behalf, and had thousands of cases to "look into."

The mourner

She seemed to be a very alert business woman, and it was assumed that she held a highly important post.

Becoming friendly with the owner of the hotel, Miss Barnes confided that she was in mourning for her father, who had died quite recently.

One morning she announced wistfully that she had received a communication from her solicitors, giving the final details of her late father's will.

Everything, it seemed, had been left to her, and she was in a quandary about her future.

She had inherited not only a large house in Mayfair, a luxury motor car and some £5,000 in cash, but a flourishing bookmaking business in Oakley Street, London.

It was the last-named item of the legacy which troubled her. She did not feel equal to taking over control of a business of that nature alone; she supposed she would have to sell it or instal a manager and try to keep an eye on it herself.

Swan song

One thing was certain, however; she would be able to give up her tedious employment and map out a career nearer to her heart.

This story, unfolded gradually in numerous casual conversations, carried complete conviction.

When the attractive Miss Barnes came to the management with the lament that a remittance from her solicitors had been delayed, she succeeded in raising a substantial loan.

She was most profuse in her thanks and gave her assurance that this loan would be repaid at the earliest possible moment.

Then, one morning, the efficient Miss Barnes went out with her attaché case, never to return.

Her bill was unpaid, and an enquiry at the London office of the Pearl Assurance Co., Ltd., revealed that she was quite unknown there, and had never been in its employ.

Crocodile tears

The fact is that Miss Barnes is a clever adventuress who has victimised numerous people with her pathetic stories of recent bereavement and newly-acquired wealth.

She is badly wanted by scores of dupes, and the police would be pleased to hear from anyone who can give information likely to lead to her early arrest.

£20 MUST BE WON FITTING PHRASES NO ENTRANCE FEE

On this page are reproduced seven advertisements and a series of descriptive phrases. Which phrase do you consider best applies to each advertisement? A prize of £20 will be awarded to the reader who, on either form, submits the correct or nearest correct placing of the seven phrases in the most appropriate manner as decided by the Advertisement Director of "John Bull." In the event of a tie the prize of £20 will be equally divided. The prize of £20 must be won. THERE IS NO ENTRANCE FEE—all that you have to do is to study carefully the advertisements and the phrases on this page. Each advertisement has a LETTER in the top left hand corner and each of the phrases is NUMBERED. On the Entry Form below indicate in INK the way in which the seven phrases in your opinion apply most aptly to each of the seven advertisements by writing PHRASE NUMBERS in the blank spaces underneath the LETTERS on Coupon. No phrase may be used more than once. No correspondence will be entered into. Send your entries in an envelope sealed (1½d. stamp)

CLOSING DATE:
Sat., Jan. 9th, 1932.
The name of the winner, or winners, will be announced in "John Bull" issue published Thursday, Jan. 28.

FIT THESE PHRASES

1. Has to be good to be so popular.
2. You cannot buy anything better.
3. Bought by the people who know.
4. Always chosen for its good qualities.
5. Outstanding in the satisfaction it gives.
6. The family's favourite.
7. When quality and economy mean the same.

ADDRESS ENTRIES:
Fitting Phrases, "John Bull,"
57-59, Long Acre,
London, W.C.2.

A

For Glorious Health drink delicious

'OVALTINE'

TONIC FOOD BEVERAGE

There is only one "Ovaltine"—there is nothing "just as good."

1/1, 1/10 and 3/3 per tin

B

"Bringing Home the Beef!"

Children grow sturdy and strong on Oxo. Oxo with milk makes a pleasant change.

OXO BEEF IN BRIEF

C

DIPLOMA CHEESE

D

FRUIT FRESHNESS *distinguishes*

Robertson's Jams

"Golden Shred" Brand

Made from the finest, freshest fruit. Only sugar added——nothing else.

E

There's Health

***in* THIS BRITISH FOOD**

Delicious Shredded Wheat is made by BRITISH LABOUR from Empire Wheat. It is a complete food in itself, made from whole wheat, including the bran, prepared and baked so that none of its great nourishing qualities is lost. Enjoy Shredded Wheat with hot or cold milk for breakfast, with fruit for lunch or with butter and cheese for supper.

SHREDDED WHEAT

The Shredded Wheat Co., Ltd., Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

F

THIS sign stands for the best Beef Suet that one can buy—"Atora" is quite an institution now! And it's as good as it's popular! Always keep a packet of "Atora" in the larder. It's so handy for making light nourishing puddings and dumplings and as a creamy improvement in milk puddings.

Hagon's

"ATORA"

The Good **BEEF SUET**

G

Mazawattee Tea

THE TEA THAT NEVER VARIES

1 FREE ENTRY FORM

Key Letters of Advertisements	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Fill in the Key NUMBERS of the Phrases in the appropriate spaces on the right.							

In entering this competition I agree to accept the decision of the Advertisement Director of "John Bull" as final and legally binding.

SIGNATURE.....

ADDRESS.....

(Section 1) Write clearly in Ink.

Coupons for Section 1

Other £20 Contests on pages 23 and 25

1 FREE ENTRY FORM

Key Letters of Advertisements	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Fill in the Key NUMBERS of the Phrases in the appropriate spaces on the right.							

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SIGNATURE.....

ADDRESS.....

(Section 1) Write clearly in Ink.

Shameless AGONY ADS

Two lines in the Personal Column spell an escape from monotony, promise a new thrill—a subtle snare for an imaginative young woman . . .

THE "personal column" has always been a happy hunting-ground for sharks of all kinds and sizes, and a careful scrutiny of various London and provincial newspapers shows that the scandal is as rife to-day as ever.

The unscrupulous individuals who choose this medium for getting into touch with prospective victims are becoming more and more daring. At one time they made some attempt to disguise their snares; but in many instances to-day their announcements are blatant in the extreme.

One recent issue of a paper circulating on the fringe of London yields half a dozen examples, in which we find such outrageous announcements as: "Love counts; to Hell with respectability."

There is the brief announcement of a "Healthy male" who seeks "a fine companion": there is a young man who wishes to meet an "attractive and affectionate girl" for "intimate friendship."

And in this same column we find a young girl welcoming suggestions and declaring that she is ready to "go anywhere and do anything" in search of thrills.

These announcements are typical of the shameless way in which certain advertisers boldly declare their demands. But they are not the worst. Many of the items which creep into the personal columns of some newspapers to-day leave almost nothing to the imagination.

Sinister anonymity

There is, of course, nothing illegal in making such statements public. Unfortunately, the privileges enjoyed by the innocent advertisers have latterly been usurped in many instances by adventurers, adventuresses and even dangerous crooks.

Sheltering behind the cloak of a box number are philanderers and rogues of the worst type, and many a blackmail plot has been based upon a snare set in some personal column. The same channel is favoured by cliques of neurotic men and women who dabble in degeneracy.

In Belgravia there is a colony of nudists who are known to each other only by numbers. They were assembled by means of announcements appearing in the personal column of a certain daily newspaper. Behind the scenes is a woman who finds it immensely profitable to pander to the abnormal desires of these anonymous members.

A young Wimbledon girl innocently answered an advertisement in a respectable suburban journal and got into touch with a middle-aged woman, who said she would be delighted to introduce her to several "broad-minded" young people.

This unsuspecting girl was invited to a "Bohemian party" at a flat near the Marble Arch in London's West End.

An excellent dinner was served and drinks of all kinds were liberally dispensed. Afterwards there was dancing, which tended to become more abandoned and barbaric as the night advanced.

Then, towards midnight, the hostess provided her own peculiar thrill, and distributed phials of amyl-nitride—a new and fashionable hypnotic drug which is, so far, outside the provisions of the Drugs Act—with the assurance to the novices that they would find it "delightfully exhilarating."

Dope—at a price

The woman advertiser who was the hostess upon this occasion stages her gatherings of innocent young folk for no other purpose than to sell drugs at twenty times their normal cost. Many of her parties develop into orgies of an unspeakable kind, and the Wimbledon girl we have mentioned was fortunate indeed to escape unscathed.

An apparently guileless announcement, which appeared for three consecutive mornings in a national newspaper not long ago, invited people interested in a certain ancient order to write c/o a box number.

Under the impression that the announcement referred to a religious body, a young man responded and discovered, to his disgust, that new members were invited—after paying ten pounds each—to participate in terrible orgies in a disused garage near Clarges Street, Mayfair.

One unhappy victim drawn into this movement is the young daughter of a retired military officer, who has since been sent to a nursing home for treatment.

The dangers of chance-made acquaintanceships have often been stressed; but, so long as the personal columns of our newspapers are open to the abuses we are dealing with, there is small chance of stamping the menace out.

Every day undesirable people are setting snares for the unwary in this fashion. One woman who answered an advertisement in a spirit of jest got to know a man who seemed the soul of honour. He boasted to her of his public school days; but omitted to say that he had been expelled for misconduct.

Bogus author's trap

Actually, he was a thorough-paced scoundrel, and he cultivated this woman's friendship until he had succeeded in relieving her of several thousand pounds in exchange for worthless shares.

Some idea of the other dangers which lurk in the personal column is afforded by the experience of an Oxford girl, who entered into correspondence with a man, believing him to be an author in search of a secretary.

His preliminary letters betrayed nothing to which exception could be taken, and the young girl accepted a post as resident secretary in the alleged author's seaside home.

She had not been in the house twenty-four hours before her new employer made objectionable advances, and she had to complain to the local police and borrow money to return home.

Wrapped filth

The personal columns are used to an unbelievable extent by sinister individuals who seek to defile youth or to exploit the unwary, but their announcements are nearly always cloaked in seemingly innocent language.

Youthful valets are advertised for in tempting terms, with usually a reference to light duties, constant foreign travel, and liberal salary and allowances.

One Somerset youth who answered an advertisement of this type entered the household of an elderly man whose outward joviality did not betoken his evil intent.

What this lad endured cannot here be told. He was eventually stranded in South America and was ultimately driven to crime. His story would probably never have been revealed had he not fallen into the hands of the police for theft.

The statement he then made showed that he had fallen into the clutches of a brutal pervert.

Don't run the risk

As we say, there is no law to curb these undesirable advertisers provided their advertisements are not improperly worded; yet restrictions were never more gravely needed. Some advertisement managers, we know, exercise every possible vigilance, but there are others who are lamentably slack and who do not seem to care what class of advertisement they admit to their columns.

Until there is a law to compel greater discretion in the acceptance of "personal" advertisements, we can do nothing but warn the public to be more prudent.

Too many people, we fear, are ready to answer haphazard advertisements "for the fun of the thing"; though the facts clearly show that it is asking for trouble.

Race with "Silver Ring"

THE PUNTERS' CHRISTMAS BOX

I HAVE just finished studying the racegoers' Christmas-box—the entries for the Lincolnshire Handicap.

The "Lincoln" is a race of cracks and crocks, and with visions of Tapin of the boils, Soranus the fat horse, Mercutio of the "dicky" feet, and Berrilldon, who was given to breaking blood-vessels, I usually look for one of the "crocks" round about March.

Perhaps the best of the entries are Diolite, Heronslea, Grand Salute and Old Riley, but let us wait for the weights and acceptances. They are due on January 28 and February 11 respectively.

The best bets this week-end are Song of Essex, Castletown and Busy Bee, all at Kempton.

JOHN BULL'S CODE

The Code for this week is as follows. It covers the racing from Thursday, December 24, to Wednesday, December 30.

P D C X Z H J S M L T A N G Q K

V B R E F I U O Y W 98 97 96 95 94 93

In place of the letters or figures advertised in the *Sporting Life* and *Daily Herald* read those above or below, as the case may be. Example:

H 96 O J C 97 96 R X would read **INSURANCE.**

Where a double letter occurs in the name of a horse the figure 2 is substituted. Example:

97 V 2 X C W X M would read **APPERLEY.**

"SILVER RING.

"The Greatest of These——" Fund

RESOLVE *to be* HAPPY

by Pledging Yourself to Help the Helpless

"Charlie doesn't realise"

SIX-YEAR-OLD Charlie is, fortunately, too young to realise what a sad Christmas this is for his parents, who have just suffered a double loss.

A month ago Charlie's mother sat nursing her three-weeks-old baby when she heard screams coming from her father-in-law's basement room of the house where they lodge.

She found that her little son, aged one year and eight months, who loved nothing better than to sit in his high chair by his grandfather's fire, had evidently toppled over, and as he fell had caught hold of the kettle of boiling water, which poured over him, scalding him so badly that he died after lying for five pain-racked weeks in the hospital.

* * *

The grandfather, who was terribly upset by the calamity that had befallen his grandchild, died two days later.

Charlie's dad, an ex-Service man, has only been able to get five months' work in the last two years. He is now on transitional pay of 25s. a week, for which he does four days' work.

On this he has to keep himself, his wife and three children — Charlie, Charlie's four-year-old sister, and the baby boy of seven weeks. He is the picture of hopeless misery—haggard and underfed.

* * *

"I feel properly fed up with this unemployment," said the father. "The same thing—walk, walk, walk. I keep looking for work. If there is any building going on, and I approach the foreman, it is always the same answer: 'Full up.' We have been selling things and pawning things every week, and our boy's death (he was not insured) has broken us up altogether."

Instead of making breakable New Year resolutions, here is a chance for our readers to start 1932 in the best possible way by turning out their pockets for the help of Charlie's stricken family. Donations earmarked for it, as well as for the Fund generally, should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, JOHN BULL War Sufferers' Fund, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Where addresses are given, acknowledgments will be sent by post. Full lists of subscriptions may be seen at this office.

We wish the Fund's friends a happy and prosperous New Year.

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3. Bought by the people who know.
4. Always chosen for its good qualities.
5. Outstanding in the satisfaction it gives.
6. The family's favourite.
7. When quality and economy mean the same.

ADDRESS ENTRIES:
Fitting Phrases, "John Bull,"
57-59, Long Acre,
London, W.C.2.

A

Here's health in store from peel to core!

Prepared in sunshine, full of life-giving Vitamins, there is no better food for health than Fruit.

EAT MORE FRUIT
NATURE'S WAY TO FITNESS

B

Quaker Oats is the family's best health-assurance, giving strength and energy to young and old. Milled from the world's finest oats, Quaker Oats has a rich, delicious flavour that no other oat has ever been able to imitate.

QUAKER OATS
THE EMPIRE'S BREAKFAST
MADE IN CANADA

C

THERE IS NOTHING "JUST AS GOOD" AS THE
Aladdin
BETTER LIGHT . . . BETTER VALUE

No other lamp approaches anywhere near the Aladdin for efficiency, safety, simplicity, durability, cleanliness and beauty of line. No other paraffin oil lamp gives such a clear, pure white, instant light for less than one farthing an hour. A light of great power which is nevertheless absolutely harmless to the eyes. Refuse Imitations. The Aladdin stands alone, the wonder lamp of the world. It has many imitators but no rivals.

BETTER . . . because British Labour makes it

Table Lamp in Nickel or Brass. Other finishes extra. (Shade 4/6 extra) **33/-**

Super-Aladdin Lamp with new Draught-controlled Burner and other improvements. In Nickel, Polished Brass or Satin Brass **42/-** Other finishes extra

ALADDIN INDUSTRIES LTD., 68, ALADDIN BUILDING, GREENFORD, MIDDLESEX.

D

Holbrook's Sauce
Worcestershire

A few drops make a wonderful difference in cooking.

E

Winter Saps Vitality but work goes on!

In the winter, lower vitality gives less power of resistance to the ills which are in the air; yet work must still be carried on. Let a glass of Wincarnis every morning restore your lost vitality and build up strength to face the day in good health and spirits. "Wincarnis" is a splendid safeguard against Influenza, Bronchitis, Catarrh, etc.

WINCARNIS
5/8 and 3/8 per bottle.

F

Ask Your Baker For It.

Good digestion is the basis of nutrition and health. Eat Bermaline regularly and you will do much to keep a sound digestion or restore one that is impaired.

BERMALINE BREAD

G

She gets all the admiration

ALWAYS ALLURING — DAINTY — CHIC—SHE IS THE MOST POPULAR GIRL IN HER SET. SHE USES ICILMA FACE POWDER, CHOSEN BY 78% OF THE MEN WE ASKED, BECAUSE OF ITS SUBTLE PERFUME.

Icilma FACE POWDER
Large Round Box 1/3.
Popular Box 6d.

2 FREE ENTRY FORM

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Fill in the Key NUMBERS of the Phrases in the appropriate spaces on the right.							

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SIGNATURE.....

ADDRESS.....

(Section 2) Write clearly in Ink.

Coupons for Section 2

Other £20 Contests on pages 21 and 25

2 FREE ENTRY FORM

Key letters of Advertisements	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Fill in the Key NUMBERS of the Phrases in the appropriate spaces on the right.							

In entering this competition I agree to accept the decision of the Advertisement Director of "John Bull" as final and legally binding.

SIGNATURE.....

ADDRESS.....

(Section 2) Write clearly in Ink.

THE SAME GENEROUS TERMS as offered by the "Big Two" for the Flat apply to racing under

NATIONAL HUNT RULES

NO LIMIT, Single Events, Win or Place.
NO LIMIT to Place Betting, even when Favourite Starts "Odds On."
Favourite Doubles, Trebles, Accumulators and Jockeys' Mounts accepted to Win.
LETTER COMMISSIONS accepted from 1/- up to any amount on any race in accordance with our rules. Daily Settlements. Winnings by return post.

FOOTBALL FIXED PRICE & LONG ODDS TOTALISATOR

14 LISTS TO CHOOSE FROM

6 LEAGUE, 5 LEAGUE, 4 LEAGUE.

NOTHING BARRED
NOTHING STARRED

In connection with our famous "CHALLENGER" FOOTBALL LISTS, thousands of Football Fans are now wearing "Challenger" Ties. Full particulars of our remarkable **FREE** offer, by return if you mention this paper.

To agents THE BIG TWO Send direct

DAVID COPE
& ALFRED H. MAURICE LTD
227 BATH STREET, GLASGOW, C2.

£10:10s. FOR A SLOGAN

NSPCC

The Central Committee of the N.S.P.C.C. offer a

1st PRIZE of 10 Guineas

and a

2nd PRIZE of 5 Guineas

for the best slogans applicable to the aims and methods of the Society based on the initials N.S.P.C.C.

ALL entries to be addressed "Slogan," The N.S.P.C.C., Victory House, Leicester Square, W.C.2, and each entry accompanied by a postal order for one shilling.

Closing date, December 31st, 1931

The award will be made by the Committee, and no member of the staff will be permitted to compete.

Last year the Society Helped or Protected 105,873 Children as follows:

NEGLECT	77,531
ADVICE SOUGHT ...	15,750
VIOLENCE	6,768
IMMORALITY	449
STREETS (Begging, etc.) ...	305
VARIOUS	5,070
	105,873

The Society does not ignore the rights of parents but where needed, brings them to a sense of their responsibilities.

The Society only prosecutes when other means fail.

The Society assists crippled, deformed and ailing children to obtain the best medical and surgical treatment.

The nearest Inspector (of whom there are 260 stationed in all parts of England, Wales and Ireland) is ready at any hour of the day or night to come and protect a child.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN

Victory House, Leicester Square, London, W.C.2

Chairman: The Viscount ULLSWATER, G.C.B.
Hon. Treasurer:
Alderman Sir GEORGE WYATT TRUSCOTT, Bart.
Director: WILLIAM J. ELLIOTT.

A GLORIOUS Children's Charter

Clarion Call for Child Welfare

"The vision of a better earthly kingdom for children" — who could resist the appeal?

THE CHILD is the hope of the world! A small, civilised fragment of the world knows it; a vast body of people are dimly awakening to the ethical truth of it.

The great barriers against communication are being broken down by speedy travel, by the radio and the kinema. The world knows more about itself.

People must be made more poignantly aware in 1932 that there are vast masses of children who are neglected—who are speedily becoming a menace—who will perpetuate the bad old days we never want to see again.

The vision of a better earthly kingdom for children first gripped international attention in 1911 when there were stirrings towards the formation of an association for child welfare.

In 1913, at the instance of the Belgian Government, an international Congress met at Brussels. There it was decided to establish an office; a draft constitution was drawn up and submitted to the different governments.

THE World War interrupted the good work, and at the same time increased the need for it by a thousandfold.

"Every war, whether just or unjust, is a war against the child." So the friends of the children bided their time.

The Belgian Government summoned a second Congress, which met at Brussels in 1921. It was attended by the official delegates from thirty-three countries. Every important country with the exception of Russia and the United States was represented.

All kinds of societies, including the International Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies, took part. After colossal labours in the way of collecting information the Congress set to work.

The scope of its enquiries may be guessed by the range of the questionnaire it submitted to the various Governments. It may be summarised as follows:

To obtain from Governments documentation regarding measures in force from (a) the legal, (b) the health, and (c) the moral point of view.

To prepare a list of private associations for the promotion of child welfare, and to classify them according to their activities.

To publish texts and translations of laws for the protection of children in all countries.

To establish a Press-cutting service.

To act as a centre for world documentation to establish an information service, and to publish monthly an International Bulletin.

To prepare agreements and International Conventions on questions of child welfare.

THE soul of this movement and its inspiration, until the day when she laid down her life for her "Save the Children" fund, was a great Englishwoman to whom they gave the name of "The White Flame" and "Sister of all the World." This was Eglantyne Jebb, daughter of Arthur Trevor Jebb, of Ellesmere.

It was Miss Jebb who embodied the determination of the Congress into the most wonderful document the world has ever seen.

Known as the Declaration of Geneva, this document is the World's Charter for the help and protection of its children at all times and everywhere. Listen to its inspired clauses:

RECOGNISING (it says) that Mankind gives to the child the best that it has to give, men and women of all nations declare and accept it as their duty beyond and above all considerations of race, nationality or creed, that:

The child must be given the means requisite for its normal development, both materially and spiritually.

The child that is hungry must be fed; the child that is sick must be nursed; the child that is backward must be helped; the delinquent child must be reclaimed; and the orphan and waif must be sheltered and succoured.

The child must be the first to receive relief in time of distress.

The child must be put in a position to earn a livelihood and must be defended from every form of exploitation.

The child must be brought up in the consciousness that its talents must be devoted to the service of its fellow men.

This Declaration was adopted at Geneva in 1924 by the Assembly of the League of Nations.

It was unanimously endorsed by forty-nine countries. There have been tangible results.

Bulgaria has constantly applied to the Save the Children Fund for information, and is diligently trying to give effect to its clauses. Bulgaria has a National Children's Day every year, and in the town square of Sofia a huge copy of the Declaration of Geneva is erected for all to see.

When the Polish Government reformed its constitution it came to Save the Children movement to ask: "What are the best laws for the help of children?" It returned to frame its own laws on the best of those in Britain and other countries.

The Spanish Government—and it is the first country in the world to do this—has incorporated the Declaration of Geneva in its constitution. Hungary has raised the school-leaving age from twelve to fourteen. Turkey holds a National Children's Day.

But there are dark spots. Although the British Government has declared its determination to put down "Mutsi," that system of forced labour by which tiny girls in Hong Kong are sold into vilest slavery, traffic in children goes on.

In India the infantile death-rate still ranges somewhere about 800 per thousand births. Child widows are still outcasts, and attempts to raise their status meets with opposition.

IN Egypt—which, by the way, did not sign the Declaration—the last census showed ten "husbands" and thirty-seven "wives" all under ten years of age who had been divorced, and 152 male and 687 female children under ten who were "married."

While we in Britain first seized the torch fifty years ago and held it to the world, there is much to do within our shores. There are the slums which destroy so many child souls. In the Welsh coalfields to-day children are in actual suffering.

To lift child welfare from that oblivion, determined each to do our best to put it into active operation, would be the very best New Year resolution all of us could make.

Football Matches played on December 26

OUR EXPERT SELECTS—

FIRST DIVISION.

(1) HUDDERSFIELD v. Newcastle.
*(2) PORTSMOUTH v. Manchester C.
(3) ARSENAL v. Sheffield U.
(4) Birmingham v. W.B. ALBION.
**(5) CHELSEA v. Blackpool.
(6) DERBY v. Sunderland.
*(7) EVERTON v. Blackburn.
(8) LEICESTER v. Bolton.
(9) Middlesboro' v. Aston Villa.
(10) WEDNESDAY v. Liverpool.
*(11) WEST HAM v. Grimsby.

SECOND DIVISION.

(1) PLYMOUTH v. Bury.
**(2) WOLVES v. Manchester U.
(3) BARNSLEY v. Millwall.
(4) BRADFORD C. v. Swansea.
(5) CHARLTON v. Hotspur.
(6) LEEDS v. Bradford.
(7) NOTTS FOREST v. Stoke.
(8) OLDHAM v. Bristol C.
(9) PORT VALE v. Notts County.
(10) Preston v. Burnley.
*(11) SOUTHAMPTON v. Chesterfield.

SOUTHERN SECTION.

(1) NORTHAMPTON v. Gillingham.
(2) SWINDON v. Crystal Palace.
*(3) BOSCOMBE v. Orient.
(4) BRIGHTON v. Mansfield.
(5) BRISTOL R. v. Thames.
(6) CARDIFF v. Luton.
(7) EXETER v. Southend.
(8) FULHAM v. Brentford.
(9) Norwich v. Watford.
*(10) Q.P. RANGERS v. Torquay.
(11) READING v. Coventry.

NORTHERN SECTION.

(1) Rotherham v. Crewe.
(2) Walsall v. Southport.
(3) WREXHAM v. Accrington.
**(4) YORK v. Doncaster.
(5) Carlisle v. Stockport.
(6) Halifax v. GATESHEAD.
(7) HARTLEPOOLS v. Hull.
(8) LINCOLN v. Chester.
(9) N. Brighton v. DARLINGTON.
(10) ROCHDALE v. Tranmere.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

*(1) KILMARNOCK v. Hearts.
(2) RANGERS v. Motherwell.
**(3) ABERDEEN v. Airdrie.
(4) CLYDE v. Cowdenbeath.
(5) Dundee U. v. CELTIC
(6) FALKIRK v. Partick.
**(7) HAMILTON v. Ayr.
(8) Leith v. THIRD LANARK.
(9) MORTON v. Dundee.
(10) Queen's Park v. ST. MIRREN.

JOHN BULL'S CODE

As injuries to players and consequent alterations in teams may affect the chances of different clubs, we shall publish last-minute JOHN BULL selections in code in the *Daily Herald* and *Sporting Life* each Friday morning.

Division and number will be quoted as above, together with *H* for home and *A* for away team.

Example Code.—Div. I.—5 (*H*); Div. II.—2 (*H*); Southern Section.—3 (*H*); Northern Section.—4 (*H*); Scottish League.—3 (*H*) would indicate Chelsea, Wolverhampton, Boscombe, York and Aberdeen.

£20 MUST BE WON FITTING PHRASES NO ENTRANCE FEE

On this page are reproduced seven advertisements and a series of descriptive phrases. Which phrase do you consider best applies to each advertisement? A prize of £20 will be awarded to the reader who, on either form, submits the correct or nearest correct placing of the seven phrases in the most appropriate manner as decided by the Advertisement Director of "John Bull." In the event of a tie the prize of £20 will be equally divided. The prize of £20 must be won. THERE IS NO ENTRANCE FEE—all that you have to do is to study carefully the advertisements and the phrases on this page. Each advertisement has a LETTER in the top left hand corner and each of the phrases is NUMBERED. On the Entry Form below indicate in INK the way in which the seven phrases in your opinion apply most aptly to each of the seven advertisements by writing PHRASE NUMBERS in the blank spaces underneath the LETTERS on Coupon. No phrase may be used more than once. No correspondence will be entered into. Send your entries in an envelope sealed (1½d. stamp)

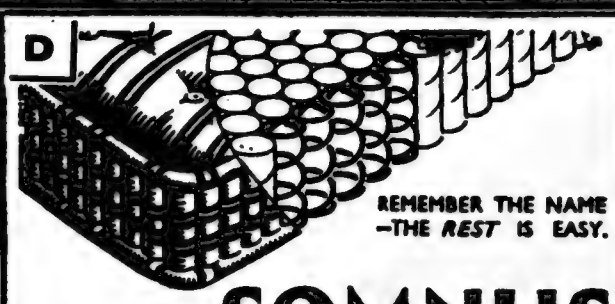
CLOSING DATE:
Sat., Jan. 9th, 1932.
The name of the winner, or winners, will be announced in "John Bull" issue published Thursday, Jan. 28.

FIT THESE PHRASES

1. Has to be good to be so popular.
2. You cannot buy anything better.
3. Bought by the people who know.
4. Always chosen for its good qualities.
5. Outstanding in the satisfaction it [gives.
6. The family's favourite.
7. When quality and economy mean the same.

ADDRESS ENTRIES:
Fitting Phrases, "John Bull,"
57-59, Long Acre,
London, W.C.2.

B
For Shirts, Collars & Pyjamas that wear well, wash well, and always look well,
ASK FOR
"Tremola"
SHIRTS COLLARS PYJAMAS
Economical in price, Durable in wear.
A Wemco FABRIC
SEE TAB IN EVERY GARMENT. NONE GENUINE WITHOUT.
Write (Dept. 18A), 18, Watling Street, London, E.C.4, if any difficulty in obtaining.


D
REMEMBER THE NAME —THE REST IS EASY.
SOMNUS
BEDDING
Ask your Furnisher or write—The Bedding House of Rhodes, Carlton Cross Mills, Leeds, and at Lotus St., Nottingham.
London Showrooms: 26-27 Lawrence Lane, Cheapside, E.C.2

E
4 Generations
have tried and proved the efficacy of
GALLOWAY'S COUGH SYRUP
Swift, sure, reliable, tested and tried for generations, Galloway's is definitely the finest of all remedies. Relieve your coughs and colds in half the time—take Galloway's!
GALLOWAY'S
COUGH SYRUP
Sold by all Chemists and Stores, price 1/3 and 2/6 per bottle, or direct from P. H. GALLOWAY, Ltd., Chemists, London, S.E.17. Price 1/6 and 3/3 post free.

F
Ten million men prefer ANZORA
There are ten million users of ANZORA—they will have it for they find it keeps their hair in order as nothing else can! There are two kinds,
ANZORA
MASTERS THE HAIR
Anzora Perfumery Co., Ltd., London, N.W.6.

G
Hullo Mum
OUR SIDE WON
Look at him. The picture of health, but muddy from the triumphs of the Football Field. Where's the Wright's Coal Tar Soap? He'll come to no harm if he uses that. Fresh, fragrant, and pure, Wright's will not only cleanse, but prevent all possible infection.
Children like it so much that it instils the habit of cleanliness.
WRIGHT'S
COAL TAR
SOAP

3 FREE ENTRY FORM

Key Letters of Advertisements	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Fill in the Key NUMBERS of the Phrases in the appropriate spaces on the right.							

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(Section 3) Write clearly in Ink.

Coupons for Section 3

Other £20 Contests on pages 21 and 23

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HUMAN DOCUMENTS

HUSBAND'S *Two Ways of* LOVING

Here is HUMANIST, Mr. Philip Inman, who is willing to study any problem which is causing you anxiety and to send you his advice through the post. Address your letters as usual to HUMANIST, JOHN BULL. Send a stamped addressed envelope. For the problems published JOHN BULL will pay £2 2s., £1 1s., and 10s. 6d.

I HAVE just reached a cross-roads in my life and I am doubtful which turning I ought to take. I am in love with two women—my wife to whom I have been married nine years and a girl I met casually at our office dance eighteen months ago—and I am sure that both of them are in love with me.

I do not mean to be disloyal to either of them, but my life seems to be divided into two compartments—a sort of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde existence.

My wife appeals to one side of my nature and I owe her a great debt of gratitude for many things she has done for me. She is a real home-bird, domesticated, economical, and a splendid manager.

Our house is like a little palace—she keeps everything as clean as a pin. But there her interests end. She never wants to leave her "castle" and dislikes going out even to office functions which I am expected to attend.

She seems unable to discuss any subjects apart from her home, and when friends call and talk about books, or theatres, or sport, she is completely floundered. She has got into a rut and nothing can move her out of it.

Now the girl, on the other hand, is a jolly good companion, well-educated, intelligent, and always cheery and bright. We have so many things in common—literature, tramping, and enjoy dancing together.

SO far my associations with this girl have been purely platonic, but I know full well that they cannot stop there. She is claiming more and more of my time and consequently I am seldom at home. What ought I to do?

If I leave my home I shall break my wife's heart. On the other hand, if I give up the girl altogether I shall miss her terribly.

"HUMANIST" says: Big as a man's life may be, there is never room in it for two women. Unless you are an utter cad, you must realise that your duty is to give up the other woman and stick to your wife. And here's a home truth for you to ponder: If you find your wife dull and uninteresting, you may be sure that you have failed to interest her. Give her as much attention as you have been giving to the other girl and you'll find that your wife will be just as good a companion as she was in your courting days.

CAST OFF

after sixty years' service

FOR nearly sixty years I have been employed by a well-known business house. I went there as a junior clerk when a lad of seventeen, and ultimately rose until I became departmental manager.

Last week my director sent for me and said that owing to the bad times they were reducing the staff, and would have to dispense with my services. He handed me a cheque for a month's salary.

When I asked if that was all they intended to do for me, I was cruelly told that I was eligible for the Old-Age Pension. My earnings have never been large, and as I have an invalid wife and a large family, I have not been able to make much provision for old age.

I feel broken-hearted at the way I have been treated, for I have always placed my firm's interests first. During the war, when they were short-staffed, I never had a day's holiday.

Have I any redress?

"HUMANIST" says: Alas! legally you have no claim, though I wish I could say otherwise. You have been treated shamefully. I happen to know the chairman of your firm, and will bring your grievance to his notice.

IS HE A THIEF?

Wife-to-be must know

I AM engaged to a young man who works at a grocer's shop. Some time ago he started to bring me boxes of fancy biscuits and chocolates, which he said he bought at wholesale prices through his firm.

His gifts became more numerous, and when I tried to persuade him to save his money he seemed hurt. I have discovered how much he is earning, and realise that he cannot afford to buy me these delicacies.

I am intensely worried, for I am sure he cannot be paying for them. I love him very dearly and it would break my heart for him to get into trouble on my account. Yet if I tax him with it he will probably resent my suspicion and break off the engagement. What ought I to do?

"HUMANIST" says: Tell him tactfully but firmly you will not accept these gifts. If he cares for you he will go straight. If he does not, the sooner the engagement is broken the better.

VICAR JEALOUS

of popular curate

TWO years ago I came as curate to this small industrial town in the Midlands, and I have been very successful in my work. Several new organisations have been started under my auspices and most of them are flourishing.

For a year it was a sheer delight to work with my vicar, but during the past few months a cloud has come between us.

I have the reputation of being a good preacher, and when I occupy the pulpit the church is always full. The vicar, though an excellent man in other ways, is not a public speaker, and he attracts few.

He seems to resent my popularity, and last Sunday he said rather bitterly that he could not understand why people stayed away when he occupied the pulpit and yet came in such numbers when I was preaching.

I love the parish and people, and should feel it keenly if I had to leave. Yet it is very disquieting having to work as the colleague of one who is obviously jealous of me. I wonder if you can suggest a way out.

"HUMANIST" says: Have a heart-to-heart talk with your vicar. Tell him you wonder if the time has come for you to make a change. It may pull him up dead and make him recognise your real worth.

If, however, he welcomes your suggestion, it would be foolish for you to remain. "The world is my parish," said John Wesley. And there are other fields waiting for you to conquer.

OUR LETTER PARLIAMENT

My New Year RESOLUTION

WHEN—seventeen years ago—I stood before my first loom, the overlooker said: "Keep your eye on the threads; the curtain will take care of itself."

Those words have been my guide to conduct ever since; and when the New Year opens its eyes I shall once more resolve to watch the threads of friendship and home ties.

Then, when the Great Overlooker examines my life's work, I shall not be ashamed.—*Radio Maid, Nottingham.*

Safety Second

I am going to take more risks. All my life I have been afraid of them, and have suffered many heart-burns over opportunities lost.

Diffident by nature; even in the everyday pleasure of doing a "good turn," I have been afraid of offending, of appearing "officious." To be able to get away from my secret self, and give all the help and pleasure I want, will all aid me to keep my resolve.—*Wife, Askern.*

Grinding Away

I'll smile through the year
And try to bring cheer
To those that are dear.
Laugh with those I love best,
And yet think of the rest.

I'll work with a will,
Keep grinding the mill,
To help fill the till.
Lend a hand where I can
To a less able man.

—*Cheerio, Wareham.*

The Helping Hand

He gave me a job. Through drink he slipped down, until he was dismissed, and I was made foreman.

Last week I gave him a start, and the tears stood in his eyes.

My resolve—to help him to rise again.—*F. C., Sherwood.*

Over the Top

To economise in words—particularly long words, and that host of words ending in "'ation."

We are beset by these words to-day—agitation, misrepresentation, stagnation, and so on. But when I "go over the top" I shall lunge my bayonet at the most treacherous fiend of the lot, and my own particular enemy—procrastination.

With him out of the way I shall feel more able to carry on, "doing my bit."—*J. J., Liverpool.*

Self First

How many readers will be honest enough to admit that in 1932 they will strive to better their *own* conditions in life?

That resolve may look cold and selfish when seen in print, but, after all, it's honest. And surely to be honest is no mean thing in life?—*No. 13, Yarmouth.*

The Cheerful Plodder

Just to "stick it with a grin." Life's a rare old puzzle, but too intriguing to "give up." Family burdens and cares, income-tax shocks, country-in-a-mess-and-muddle, age creeping on, everybody hard up and not forgetting to say so: What does it all really matter?

A pipe, a dog, a smile from the missus and a laugh on the lips of the kiddies, a little leisure, a hobby or two, and the face of a friend peeping in at the window and—cheerio—we keep plodding along.—*J. P., Hounslow.*

Amende Rapid

I have a rather hasty temper and excuse myself by believing that this is not wrong because five minutes afterwards I have forgotten all about it. However, after reading one of your articles, "The Human Machine," it has been borne in upon me that because I have forgotten the "spar" it does not follow that my opponent has. May I not have left a sore heart behind which will take much longer than five minutes to heal, or a feeling of failure and depression that will not lift in so many hours?

I shall not wait until the New Year to make my resolution, but am determined to overcome this bad habit now, and apologise immediately if I say anything unkind.—*A. W., N. Ireland.*

Carrying On

Since childhood I have suffered from acute eye trouble. Now, at thirty-four, I find myself faced with slowly but surely increasing Darkness. I have visited hospitals and seen good doctors, but it is hopeless.

My New Year resolve is to try to carry on as usual, thus helping my nerves to stand the great strain put upon them. Then when the Final comes I can still support myself and keep my independence.—*E. W., Deal.*

Pictures to Politics

Hitherto my sole interests in the newspapers have been the pictures, the serial story and sometimes a society scandal.

At the last election I voted for the first time. All I knew about politics was what I heard at election meetings.

As a New Year resolution I mean to enlighten my ignorance by reading the political history of each party and knowing more of what is happening in Parliament. Surely this will help me to vote in the future with a better understanding of the country's needs.—*Twenty-two, Wigton.*

Sky Lights

"Get out of that rut!" These words blaze across my 1932 sky—and I mean to follow them.

My aim is to spend all my spare time cultivating any money-making gifts I may possess, to help me rise out of my present rut.

I have clever fingers and an alert brain, but now both are merely employed in household drudgery, and my niche in the world has been the kitchen.

My New Year resolve is to be no longer dully content with this, but to make saleable articles in my spare time—to save—and to rise!—*K. Hardy, Hillingdon.*

• • •

"I Resolve ——"

Before "picking holes" in anyone, I shall reason whether he or she has any good point that I have not, and level that hole first.—*A. E. D., Gravesend.*

To devote next year to study and hard work, so that when I leave school I can repay my parents.—*Schoolgirl, Blackpool.*

To think of someone who always thinks of me, to care for him, provide for him, stand by him, and to try to realise his dreams.—*Hertfordian, Hertford.*

Is to make two pounds five go as far as two pounds ten.—*Housewife, Liverpool.*

My mistakes of 1931 shall be my guide for 1932.—*M. Y., Darwen.*

My New Year's resolution is to stop nagging my husband.—*Fed Up, Hemel Hempstead.*

I've been slow and sure in the past, but from 1932 onward I mean to put on steam.—*E. W. S., Harwich.*

I shall value to my utmost capacity a good wife, quiet evenings by the fireside, and the satisfaction that comes with complete mutual understanding.—*C. H. W., London.*

ORIGINAL letters upon the subject below, not exceeding 100 words, are invited. 10s. will be paid for each letter published. Envelopes, marked "Letter Parliament," must reach us by first post on Tuesday, December 29

The Husband's Job in the Home

DON'T LET INDIGESTION SPOIL YOUR XMAS

AT this season it is difficult to avoid taking foods which are richer than usual. If you have a tendency to heartburn, flatulence or other form of indigestion, it is important to remember that Christmas fare will probably aggravate the trouble. As most digestive disorder is due to excess stomach acid, the obvious way to avoid indigestion and keep free from discomfort is to counteract acidity. For this purpose doctors use and recommend half a teaspoonful of 'Bisurated' Magnesia or two to four tablets in water after meals. This instantly neutralises excess acid, quickly relieves pain and discomfort and restores normal, healthy digestion. 'Bisurated' Magnesia also soothes and heals the acid-inflamed stomach lining. Every chemist sells 'Bisurated' Magnesia in powder (plain or mint flavour) and in tablet form, and if you will get a 1s. 3d. package you can eat and enjoy whatever you like without fear of digestive discomfort.

'BISURATED' MAGNESIA Regd.

POWDER—1/3—TABLETS

Note:—'Bisurated' Magnesia powder is now available with Mint flavour as well as in the unflavoured form—both afford instant relief.

Cherry Blossom Boot Polish Hystericals No. 3. William I., A.D. 1066—1086.

The landing of William the Conqueror.

Varlet:—"By Jove! he's tumbled! Lucky thing I made his boots water-proof with Cherry Blossom Boot Polish or he'd be getting his feet wet for a start."

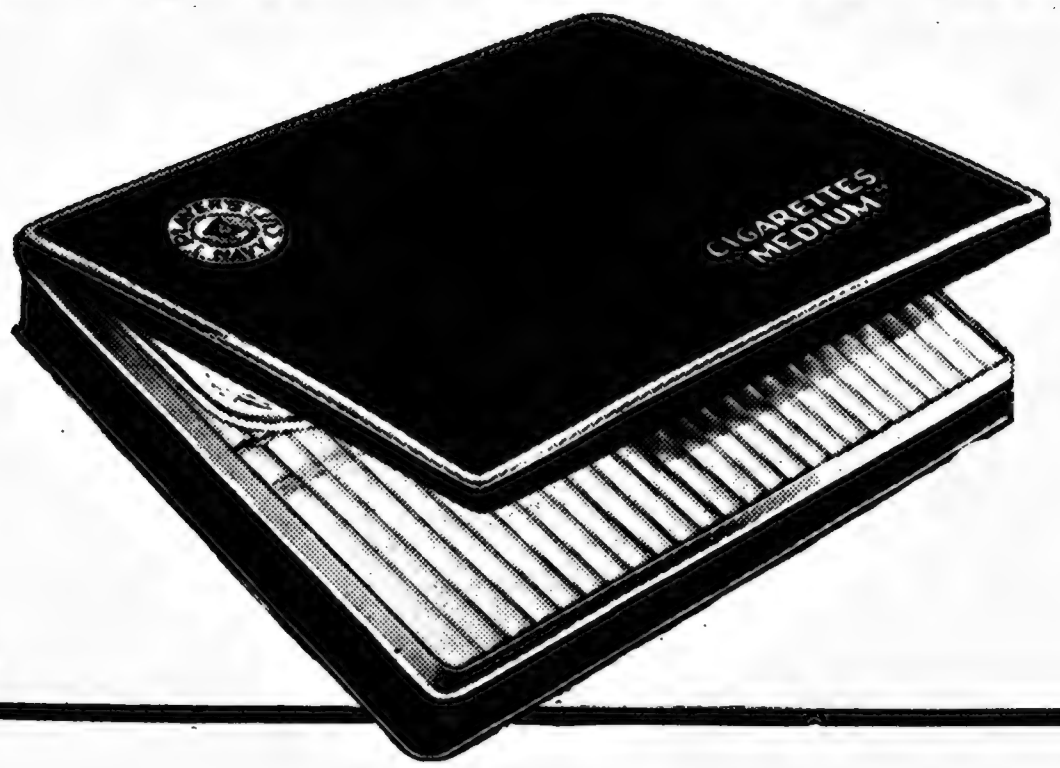
History records that when landing William tripped and fell. It was considered an evil omen until William rose with a morsel of earth in each hand exclaiming: "I have taken seizin of my kingdom." Seizin or investment in land was in those days confirmed by the presentation of a clod of earth.

Cherry Blossom Boot Polish

Black, White, Brown, Dark Tan & Tonette. In 2½d., 4½d. & 6d. tins fitted with easy opener.

PLAYER'S

make a delightful present for everyone at Christmas Time



N.C.90A

PLAYER'S "Medium" Navy Cut Cigarettes

150 *for* **7/3**

(as illustrated)

100 *for* **4/10**

50 *for* **2/6**

CHILDREN'S COUGHS & COLDS

For quicker relief, let your child inhale Vapo-Cresolene vapour while sleeping. Vapo-Cresolene is the proved vapour treatment for Coughs and Colds, Whooping Cough, Bronchial Asthma, Spasmodic Croup. No long wait for relief. Every breath carries soothing, antiseptic vapour direct to irritated membranes. Drugless, simple, easy to use. Goes straight to the spot. Complete directions with every bottle. In successful use 52 years. Of all chemists.

Vapo-Cresolene

disinfects the room and prevents the spread of infection.

Send for Booklet No.2B. ALLEN & HANBURYS LTD., Lombard Street, LONDON, E.C.3

SKIN DISEASES

Marvellous Results of New Blood Treatment.

"Skin Soft as Velvet."

"I am pleased to tell you I am completely cured from that terrible disease, varicose eczema and psoriasis, from which I was suffering, and I can only thank Elasto for the wonderful and speedy cure. My legs now show no trace of the old trouble and my skin is as soft as velvet. I think Elasto is the safest and cleanest and best blood purifier in the world. . . ."

(Signed) Mr. E. J. BEAUCHAMP,
30, British Grove, Chiswick, W.4.

The New Elasto Treatment is bringing quick relief and permanent cure to thousands of sufferers from Eczema, Psoriasis, Dermatitis, Varicose Veins, Bad Legs, Piles, and other Diseases of the Skin and Circulatory System.

It is prepared in tiny tablets to be dissolved on the tongue, and is the pleasantest, the least costly and the most effective treatment ever devised.

Send for Free Sample.

Elasto treatment is fully explained in a special booklet which we will gladly send, privately, post free, together with **Free Sample** and copies of recent testimonials. Write for these to-day. Now! Or send 5/- for a full month's treatment (in plain wrapper) and see for yourself what a wonderful difference Elasto makes!

The NEW ERA TREATMENT COMPANY Ltd.
Dept. 15 A., Cecil House, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.

PETER DAWSON

The Famous Baritone

writes: "Being unusually **run down and nervy** I was induced by a friend to try a course of VITADATIO, from which I derived great benefit. There is no doubt that your medicine is a tonic *par excellence*. It has done me an immense amount of good, and I can honestly recommend it."

If you are a sufferer—get a bottle to-day.

Vitadatio

SEND FOR FREE BOOK of TESTIMONIALS

Invaluable for Blood Troubles, Liver, Kidney and Internal Ailments. Sold by Boots, Taylors', Timothy Whites, and most Chemists and Stores, 3/- and 5/- per bottle, or post 6d. extra in Great Britain only. Special 21/- Bottles, containing 3 weeks' supply, for Export only, post free from VITADATIO No. 121, ARMLEY, LEEDS.

V158

THE HERBAL METHOD FOR

PSORIASIS

ECZEMA and all other Skin Diseases. Removes all trace completely and permanently without rest or absence from work. A proved success over 40 years. Write for FREE BOOK sent under plain cover and full particulars of our MONEY BACK GUARANTEE.

J. ROBINSON & SONS,
11, Manor House, BRADFORD.

Reduce YOUR High

BLOOD PRESSURE

REJUVENATE YOUR ARTERIES.
STRENGTHEN YOUR HEART.
COME OFF THE DANGER LIST.

Blood Pressure Breakdowns are absolutely unnecessary and Arterio-Sclerosis is curable. Steady heart action co-ordinated with youth-like elastic arteries are now possible for those past their prime. The "Shadforth" Simple Home Treatment for Arterio-Sclerosis rapidly reduces high blood pressure and tension. It gives prompt relief from palpitation, giddiness, premonitions of collapse, and sleeplessness; it leads to permanent restoration, and makes you 20 years younger within 20 days. **Get it Now.** (Prescription No. 1108/T). Prices: 2/6, 5/6, 15/6.

Privately packed and post free at these prices from

Shadforth Prescription Service, Ltd.,
(Dept. J.B. 32), 42, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON BRIDGE, E.C.4, and Branches.

Boots, Taylors, Timothy Whites, and the best chemists either hold stock or gladly obtain to order at a few days' notice if requested to do so.

FINE NEW YEAR PRIZES for JOHN BULL'S X-WORD!

FIRST PRIZE **£800**

£50 FOR RUNNERS-UP

Added Attraction
EXTRA NEW YEAR BONUS of **£1 CASH** FOR EVERY WINNER

SPECIAL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

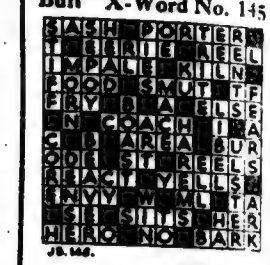
For this contest only each entrant will be allowed to submit two 6d entry-forms (4 squares) from this week's "John Bull"—and two 6d entry-forms (4 squares) from last week's issue. Enclose P.O. for total entry fee payable

PROSPERITY for 1932 awaits you. Here is a wonderful opportunity of starting the New Year with £800 in the bank! "John Bull" offers a big Crossword Prize of £800, with £50 to be divided between the runners-up, and an EXTRA New Year present of £1 for every prize-winner. Make up your mind to carry off the big prize. Enter now for this entertaining and profitable pastime—there is big money to win—and you may be the winner.

"JOHN BULL" will pay £800 for a correct solution on one square of the puzzle below. Failing a correct solution the prize will be awarded to the reader whose entry is the nearest correct solution. An additional £50 will be divided between those competitors who enter squares containing one error only or only one error more than the winning solution. In addition every cash prize winner in this contest will also receive an extra award of a New Year Bonus of £1. Solution of puzzle will be published in "John Bull" on sale Thursday, January 7th, 1932, and winner in "John Bull" on sale Thursday, January 14th, 1932.

Winners in X-Word No. 144 appear on page 2.

Solution of "John Bull" X-Word No. 145



J.B. 145.

Result will be published next week.

The solution of "John Bull" X-word No. 145 is given herewith as a matter of interest to our X-word Competitors. We wish to emphasise that no claims are required for this X-word, as all entries are being carefully examined by our staff.

READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.

RULES AND CONDITIONS.

1.—Complete puzzle in ORDINARY INK, not copying-ink or copying-ink pencil; cut out the whole entry form whether both puzzle squares are used or not. Entry Fee for two squares is SIXPENCE—for Four Squares send ONE SHILLING. Make Postal Order payable to Odhams Press Ltd., and cross it & Co.; write name, address and date of posting on back of P.O. and fill in the number upon Entry Form; send Entry Form by post, as directed, to reach us not later than **NOON, Thursday, December 31st.**

2.—No competitor may submit more than 8 squares—four from this week's announcement and four from last week's. Squares left incomplete, mutilated, indistinct or altered will be disqualified. No responsibility is accepted for any entry lost, delayed, not delivered or mislaid, and no correspondence will be entered into.

3.—Winners of this contest will appear in "John Bull" on sale **Thursday, January 14th, 1932.** Should any competitor not announced as a winner have entered a coupon eligible for a share of the £800 prize he must demand a scrutiny by first post **Tuesday, January 26th, 1932,** in accordance with directions given with result weekly. Any such Scrutiny, which may amend the result, must be accepted as final. No scrutiny can be conducted in connection with the additional award of £50 to be divided between the runners-up. Competitors should note that errors are computed according to the number of words which wrongly answer the clues given.

4.—In the event of a tie, a prize will be divided, but no competitor may receive more than one share of it.

5.—Readers in Scotland are debarred from and cannot enter this Competition. Any entry form bearing an address in Scotland will be disqualified.

6.—Failure to comply with any of the conditions involves disqualification.

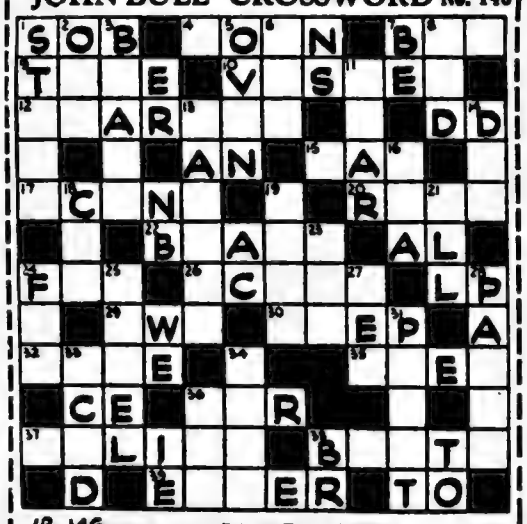
7.—Employees of Odhams Press Ltd. and members of their families are not eligible.

No claims required.

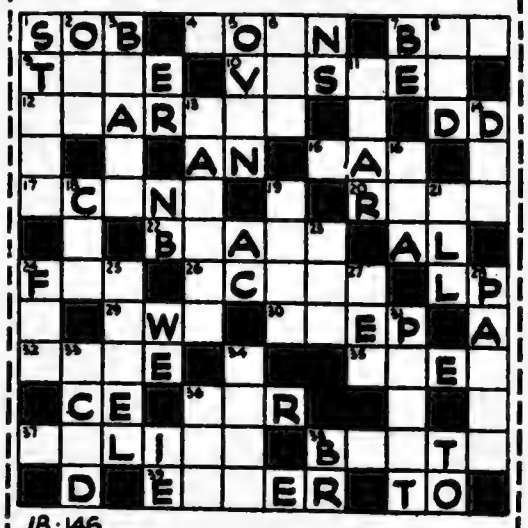
ENTRY FEE.

With two squares send P.O. for SIXPENCE.
With four squares send P.O. for ONE SHILLING. { See Rule 1.

"JOHN BULL" CROSSWORD No. 146



JB·146 *DO NOT CUT HERE.*



JB·146

In entering this Competition I agree to abide by the Editor's decision as final in all matters appertaining thereto, and enclose P.O. No..... P.O. for Sixpence must be enclosed to cover Two Squares, and Shilling P.O. to cover Four Squares.

ENTRY FEE for 2 Coupons 6D.

Readers in Scotland ineligible. See Rule 5.

SIGNED.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

CLOSING DATE (Noon) Thurs., DEC. 31

CLUES ACROSS.

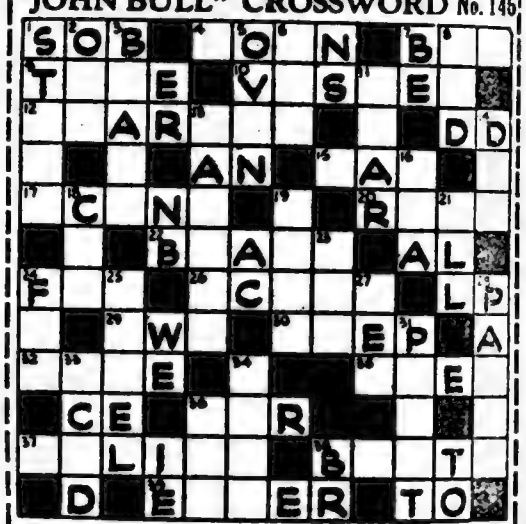
1. This shows emotion.
4. Attracts the woman shopper.
7. Needs a clip occasionally.
9. Weary.
10. Ship.
12. Frightened.
15. Is kept just inside the door.
17. Perfume.
20. Gather a harvest.
22. You see this on uniforms.
24. Cook in fat.
26. Happen.
29. Possess.
30. Retain.
32. Cook in an oven.
35. Where steamer lands passengers.
36. Atmosphere.
37. Job often done by mechanic.
38. They often get sonny into trouble.
39. Wireless flashes through this.

CLUES DOWN.

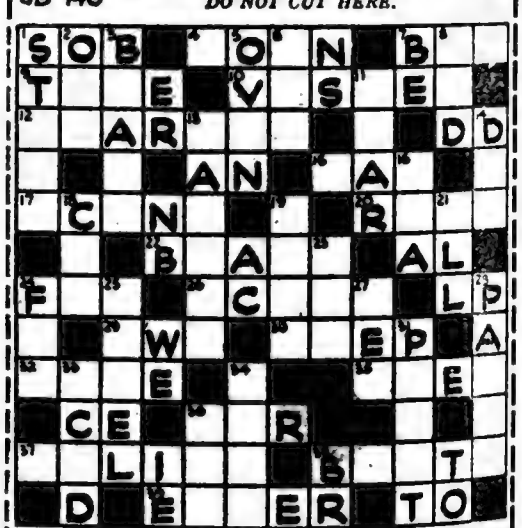
1. Conscience does this.
2. This gushes from a well.
3. It should hold tightly.
5. Joint is baked in this.
6. Married.
8. Aged.
11. Inflict a mark on the flesh.
13. Is in charge of hospital.
14. Lower into water.
16. We drink in the afternoon.
18. Sometimes the cause of road accident.
19. Match to it will cause a flare.
21. Everything.
23. "Give the devil his ——."
24. Deceive.
25. A rustic.
27. Finely corded material.
28. Used for band performance.
31. Safety often depends on.
33. Corrosive fluid.
34. Describes position.
36. Industrious insect.

A special prize of £5 will be awarded to the Newsagent from whom this contest's first prize winner usually purchases his copy of "John Bull" or his copy of "Passing Show," in conjunction with which journal this contest is conducted. Should the first prize be shared the £5 will be divided between sharers' Newsagents.

"JOHN BULL" CROSSWORD No. 146



JB·146 *DO NOT CUT HERE.*



JB·146

In entering this Competition I agree to abide by the Editor's decision as final in all matters appertaining thereto, and enclose P.O. No..... P.O. for Sixpence must be enclosed to cover Two Squares, and Shilling P.O. to cover Four Squares.

ENTRY FEE for 4 Coupons 1/-

Readers in Scotland ineligible. See Rule 5.

SIGNED.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

CLOSING DATE (Noon) Thurs., DEC. 31

If entering two double Entry Forms, cut them out separately—add name and address to both.

HOW TO ADDRESS ENTRY

Send Entry in envelope bearing 1½d. stamp and post to "John Bull" Crosswords (No. 146), 37, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. (comp.)

Write to "John Bull" About It!

The Editor Replies

THE Editor may be flippant on this page, but his humour is never malicious. He likes to end up the week's work on a bright note. Serious questions are dealt with by the expert staff of our Free Advice Service, who will deal with any matter causing anxiety to our readers. Simply send a stamped, addressed envelope with your query.

F. M. (Plymouth).—"Americans will swallow anything." Especially if it says "Scotch" on the label.

F. D. (Burnley).—"It is difficult to live without income." And equally difficult to live within it.

J. D. S. (Carlisle).—"I work fifteen hours a day, and that's a pretty good stretch." Of imagination.

GEO. (Huddersfield).—"Hedge-cutters are usually lazy men." Always resting on their laurels.

A. E. (Birmingham).—"All of us are born ignorant." And some of us never get over it.

PRO. (Glasgow).—"On an average, only one football team in four win away matches." There's no place like home.

BREEDER (Chichester).—"Mongrels are looked upon as the Cinderellas of the dog world." But they generally get the boot.

R. G. (Canterbury).—"What can a working man want with a gold cigarette lighter?" Matches.

B. D. (Esher).—"If you go to America you will hear how jazz really should be played." Thanks for the warning.

D. K. (Mayfair).—"A new evening frock has panels of thin glass." A transparent device to attract attention.

A. J. T. (Durham).—"Eggs are rich in iron." Is that why some home-made cakes are so heavy?

DOCTOR (London, N.).—"Most people have ringing noises in the ears; there is no need to bother about them." Our maid certainly doesn't.

S. B. (Morden).—"Why do people queue up for several hours for a first night?" Because they don't know what the play is like.

P. M. (York).—"What do you think of the light articles I enclose?" They fluttered gracefully into the wastepaper basket.

F. K. F. (Roehampton).—"I never associate with my inferiors. Do you?" We don't think we have ever met any of your inferiors.

S. F. (Edgware).—"If you toss a coin often enough, it will come down an equal number of heads and tails." Then why on earth does a slice of bread and butter always fall butter side down?

YANK (London, W.1).—"It is possible to board a train in the State of Kentucky and after 18 hours' travelling to find that you are still in Kentucky." We've got trains like that over here, too.

J. S. (Manchester).—"The human brain is just like a country, when you consider each of the 15,000,000 brain cells as a workman." In your case you must have a tremendous unemployment problem.

F. K. (Yeovil).—"When I read your answer I stamped my foot." You forgot to stamp your letter.

R. P. (Nuneaton).—"I have started a diary for 1932." And finished it, by the time this goes to press?

B. M. (Bude).—"Are you making any resolutions for the New Year?" Yes, one—not to make any.

G. M. (Grendon).—"I must stop now as friends have just arrived." Tell them to come earlier next time.

B. M. (Ely).—"No one should be made to suffer for the faults of others." And yet we have to read your letters.

H. M. (Letchworth).—"A person who suffers from nerves should never live near a rookery." Or a bagpipes-testing factory.

F. R. (Greenwich). "Luncheons can be sent by special express delivery post in New York." Mash on delivery.

H. A. (Poole).—"When hiking, one often meets friends at wayside inns." And also at omnibus stops.

C. W. (Purley).—"My wife and I can never hear each other on the telephone." Why not try speaking one at a time?

LITERARY CRITIC (London, W.).—"Poets have to be born." Borne, we should have said.

TED (Walton).—"I am a film fan, a football fan and a hockey fan." You must be a breezy sort of chap.

T. D. (Bath).—"I am going to buy nothing but Old Masters for my new house." And hang the expense!

R. T. (London, E.).—"A firm of wine merchants suggests that there should be a Wine Week." A champagne campaign?

BACHELOR (Bolton).—"What does a married woman need to dress?" About an hour and a half.

H. K. (Hendon).—"Schoolboys should not be punished for being untidy." But a little birch might make them look spruce.

RECTOR (Halifax).—"Continual bell-ringing seldom worries those who reside very close to a church." Oh, that is where that waitress lives, is it?

V. B. (Chard).—"No stone was left unturned to give the people a first-class amateur concert." Was any turn left unstoned?

J. N. (Dudley).—"My wife has always got a lot of things to talk to me about." That's better than having her talk about things she hasn't got.

PEGGY (Richmond).—"I have now arrived at the point of calling him by his first name." With your eye on his last, we suppose.

W. T. (Saltaire).—"I find myself quarrelling with my wife when she objects to my playing football." Answering your better half-back.

R. B. (Ulverston).—"Many a wife has assisted her husband to get to the top of the ladder." And then left him there while she put up the mistletoe herself in another part of the room.

L. A. (Boscombe).—"Is anything harder than a diamond?" Yes, paying for it.

D. S. (Southend).—"They say the corset is coming back into fashion." To stay, of course.

H. L. (Battersea).—"All the younger generation are alike in many respects." And disrespects.

A. B. (Southampton).—"I have lost interest in things." More foolish investments, we suppose.

V. T. (Epsom).—"It is said that crime films cause crime." So now we have only to find out what causes crime films.

G. R. (Kennington).—"If I go and live in the country, what am I likely to miss most of all?" The last train home.

T. A. (Antrim).—"He left a cigarette-end on the bookcase and set it afire." Did the smoke pour out in volumes?

C. F. (Ilkley).—"I am still waiting for something to turn up." Why not begin with your sleeves?

F. E. (Shanklin).—"My son is always at the bottom of the class." Never mind. The same things are taught at both ends.

P. A. (Yarmouth).—"There's nothing like walking for the health." And yet it results in many people being run down.

W. S. (Bournemouth).—"There is one thing hotel servants never let visitors see." We know—the backs of their hands.

HARRY (Glasgow).—"It is natural for a dog to overtake any fast-moving object in front of it." The greyhounds we back must be hopelessly unnatural.

G. J. A. (Egham).—"Constantly dripping water will wear away any stone." Then how is it that our public statues survived last summer?

P. G. C. (Stalybridge).—"I look forward to Christmas—but when it comes I never know how to fill up the time." Fill up a coupon or two from page 31. That £600 would fill up your purse, or a hamper would fill up your person.

C. McP. (Aberdeen).—"Are the Scots a dying race?" We doubt it, in spite of the fact that living is very expensive these days.

R. H. (Dewsbury).—"Where are the defects of a second-hand car likely to be found?" Several miles from the nearest garage.

B. L. (Kew).—"Grey squirrels will destroy bulbs and take the heart out of a cabbage." To say nothing of taking the heart out of a gardener.

E. W. (Ware).—"Some men do nothing but write original stories for the talkies." Then why on earth isn't one of them ever produced?

T. F. (Leeds).—"Morose and gloomy people do not resist disease as easily as those with a cheerful disposition." The surly bird catches the germ.

G. R. (Loughborough).—"My objection to motoring is that it provides no real exercise." As a pedestrian we cannot agree.

(Many replies unavoidably held over)

SIDE-Slips

Examples of unconscious humour from the current Press are welcomed. Actual cuttings must be sent. 2/6 is paid to the sender of each item published. In the event of the same "Slip" being sent by more than one reader, the award is paid to sender of the first letter opened. Mark envelope "Slips."

LANCS DAILY POST :—"It was the rarest thing in this country that people committing such offences as HOUSE-KEEPING—."

NORTH-EASTERN DAILY GAZETTE :—"The members of the Women's Institute were confident that there was some means of FRIGHTENING their little town."

ACES MAGAZINE :—"The EARS were still running down his face."

THE SOUTHPORT VISITER :—"Miss L. B—— will act as Mayoress for her BOTHER."

THE STARTLER :—"'A lovely price, too!' growled the greengrocer's SHOP."

EVENING NEWS :—"She was crossing a TURNIP yesterday."

S. THOMAS' PARISH MAG. (Sunderland) :—"We always consider it a privilege to accompany the Tramwaymen to Church on the Sunday MOANING.

YORKSHIRE TELEGRAM AND STAR :—"The man addressed frowned impatiently, but obediently nodded his HAND."

SOUTHPORT GUARDIAN :—"The excellent repast was served in the handsome ballroom which was attractively decorated with coloured BALLROOMS."

LEVEN MAIL :—"On Wednesday night at seven, a lecture . . . Mrs. M—— and Miss N. T—— will SINK."

EVENING EXPRESS :—"Her claim was opposed by three nephews and a PIECE of the testator."

EVENING ARGUS :—"He attacked her, but she was not seriously INSURED."

A MOM MOM'S the word IS A MEMBER OF
The Most Cheery Order of Merrythoughts

founded to disseminate happiness, to encourage Optimists, Cheery Souls, Stout Fellows, Good Sports, and Mark Tapleys; to propagate Smiles Quips, and General Cheerfulness; to suppress Frowns, Scowls, Groans, and Long Faces; to round up Mugwumps, Pessimists, Spoil Sports, Dorse and others who would be better for a spot of happiness; to support such Charities as Pearson's Fresh Air Fund or any other whose object is to Spread Happiness with a trowel.

SEND 5/- for a Life Membership

One shilling will go to Mr. Ernest Kessel, C.B.E., as Hon. Organiser of Pearson's Fresh Air Fund. (He is Hon. Sec. of the M.C.O.M.) You will receive the beautiful token of the Order—a Mystic Key-Holder, in solid silver, with Free Key Insurance. You will also receive free by post the monthly "Merrythoughts' Magazine," the brightest book of Cheerfulness ever published.

£100 has already been paid to the Fresh Air Fund, although the first MOM was enrolled only a week ago.

THE MOST CHEERY ORDER OF MERRYTHOUGHTS
Write for booklet. 24 Chronicle House, Fleet St., E.C.4.

ECZEMA ON HANDS FOR 4 YEARS

In Wet Eruptions. Scaled Over. Cuticura Healed.

"I had eczema on my hands for four years. It broke out on one of my wrists in wet eruptions and then dried up and scaled over. After a while the scales peeled off and the original eruptions were still there. It was very irritating and I could not help scratching. Shortly after my other hand broke out. I was ashamed to go anywhere where I had to take my gloves off.

"I sent for a free sample of Cuticura Soap and Ointment and purchased more and in two months I was completely healed." (Signed) Miss F. Crossland, 156, Bolingbroke St., Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Northumberland, Eng., April 4, 1930.

Use Cuticura to clear your skin.

Soap 1s. Ointment 1s. 3d. and 2s. 6d. Talcum 1s. 3d. For sample each address: F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 27, Charter Ho., London, E.C.1.
Cuticura Shaving Cream 1s. 6d. a tube.

NUTTALL'S MINTOES 4d. PER QR
SOLD BY ALL CONFECTIONERS.

FREE

★ Fill in the Coupon in the John Noble advert. on p. 30 for monster 232-page Bargain Catalogue and full particulars of their Ideal Club Scheme for which organisers are wanted immediately. Help yourself and your friends by sending the Coupon NOW!

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EARN MORE! SAVE MORE! Thousands of men and women are earning and saving through the Ideal Club, why not **YOU?** As an Organiser or as a Member you can use the Ideal Club to increase your income or make your present earnings buy more. Many a home is happier to-day because its owners have discovered John Noble's wonderful Ideal Club. Members do not say: "We cannot afford," but "We can get it through the Club!" Ideal Club Members always rejoin, they find this such a convenient way of buying and so dependable.

Help Yourself and Your Friends by Forming an Ideal Club

JOHN NOBLE LTD. WANT ORGANISERS OF WEEKLY CLUBS. Generous commission, no outlay, little trouble, and no expense. Marvellous Bargains in Furniture, Fashions, Footwear, Bedding, Underwear, Outfitting, etc. Goods practically sell themselves. Investigate **NOW!** Fill in and post the coupon below for monster 232-page Bargain Guide and full particulars. Hundreds of testimonials received weekly testify to the wonderful popularity of John Noble's Ideal Club.

TRUTH IN ADVERTISING!

Unbeatable Value!

Two of the most Wonderful Bargains in the Country.

F.R. 2262. British Made with British Materials! This Tufted Mattress is a fine example of Ideal Club Value. It is covered with Strong Jacquard Brocade of Blue or Pink ground, well tufted, filled to Government Standard, and firmly piped at edges. Thoroughly comfortable and dependable above the average because of its sound quality, make and materials. In 4ft. 6in. or 4ft. size.

PRICE, ONLY 20/-

G.2263. Amazing Value in Luxurious Down Quilts. Amply filled with thoroughly purified Lincolnshire feathers. Covered tested down-proof Sateen in charming design, with panel and centre of Artificial Silk Satin in Bright Rose, Art Blue, Dull Rose, Golden Flame or Black. Very well eyeletted for complete ventilation, and British Made with British Materials. Cut full 6 x 5ft. size. **PRICE, ONLY 20/-**

BUY IDEAL BARGAINS THE IDEAL WAY!

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Don't Delay Post this Coupon NOW!

COUPON. **JOHN NOBLE LTD.**

IDEAL CLUB (Dept. B7), MANCHESTER

Please send me your Bargain Catalogue and full particulars of your Ideal Club Scheme.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

Please write in BLOCK LETTERS.
Post this coupon in unsealed envelope, ½d. stamp.

The DEMON in the Xmas Tree

PICTURE to yourself one of the thousands of Christmas trees which will make young hearts happy this Christmas. Lighted candles glow in the branches; "snow" made of cotton wool and tissue paper gives a realistic touch. The fun is fast and furious . . . . until a sudden draught blows the flame of one of the candles on to the glittering structure. In a twinkling it is ablaze, flames shoot up to the ceiling, jeopardising lives and precious belongings.

A Christmas tree candle, a spark from the grate, a cigarette end carelessly dropped—these may all cause terrible tragedies.

JOHN BULL is the ONLY paper to cover your home against fire—the ONLY paper to cover loss of life through this dreaded enemy.

Safeguard your home!—not only against Fire, but also against Storm, Flood, Sickness and Accident. If you have not already done so, sign the registration forms below.

FIRE, STORM, FLOOD, SICKNESS, ACCIDENT, "John Bull" covers you FREE

CUT HERE

JOHN BULL

Hand this Coupon to your Newsagent.

To (Name of Newsagent) .....

Address .....

.....

Please deliver or reserve JOHN BULL for me weekly until further notice.

Signature .....

Address .....

Date .....

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.
J.B., 26/12/31.

CUT HERE

Post this Coupon to

"John Bull" Registration Department, 128, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

I have sent an Order Form to my Newsagent for the regular weekly delivery of JOHN BULL. Please register me as a regular reader.

.....
Reader's Signature.
Age.....

Address .....

.....

.....

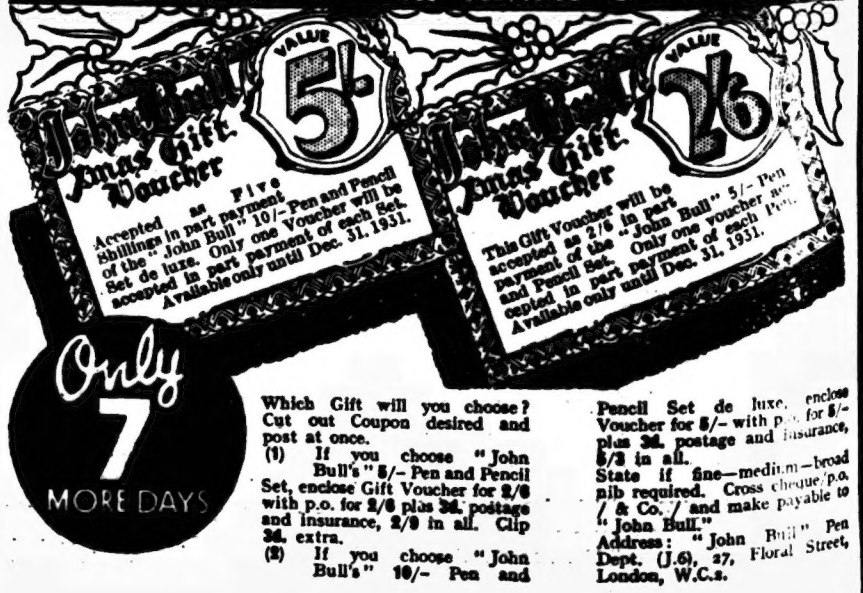
Name and Address of Newsagent.

.....

..... Date.....

Use ½d. stamp. Don't seal envelope. A certificate setting out the full benefits and conditions and certifying registration will be sent if ½d. stamped addressed envelope is enclosed for return. **PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.** J.B., 26/12/31.

JOHN BULL'S GREAT XMAS GIFT TO YOU


John Bull
Xmas Gift Voucher
VALUE 5/-
Accepted as Five Shillings in part payment of the "John Bull" 10/- Pen and Pencil Set de luxe. Only one Voucher will be accepted in part payment of each Set. Available only until Dec. 31, 1931.
John Bull
Xmas Gift Voucher
VALUE 2/6
This Gift Voucher will be accepted as 2/6 in part payment of the "John Bull" 5/- Pen and Pencil Set. Only one voucher accepted in part payment of each Pen. Available only until Dec. 31, 1931.
Only 7 MORE DAYS

Which Gift will you choose? Cut out Coupon desired and post at once.

(1) If you choose "John Bull's" 5/- Pen and Pencil Set, enclose Gift Voucher for 2/6 with p.o. for 2/6 plus 3d. postage and insurance, 2/9 in all. Clip 3d. extra.

(2) If you choose "John Bull's" 10/- Pen and Pencil Set de luxe, enclose Voucher for 5/- with p.o. for 5/- plus 3d. postage and insurance, 5/3 in all.

State if fine—medium—broad nib required. Cross cheque/p.o. / & Co. / and make payable to "John Bull."

Address: "John Bull" Pen Dept. (J.6), 27, Floral Street, London, W.C.2.

Start the New Year with 'Bullets' Double-First or a Gold-lined Hamper!

JOHN BULL
A Merry Christmas to you and a Prize-winning New Year!
The Competition Editor
£600
£50
£25
and 100 GOLD-LINED NEW YEAR HAMPERS EACH WITH £2 cash
£2-
POST
THESE HAMPERS CONTAIN
PLUMP SUNNY FOWL, PORK SAUSAGES, PLUM PUDDING, DUNDEE CAKE, BISCUITS, CHOCOLATES, BOX OF CRACKERS, MUSCATELS & ALMONDS, 50 CIGARETTES, BOTTLE OF FINE OLD PORT, & A NEW YEAR CHEQUE FOR £2
Crackers
Chocolate

Spend Christmas leisure with this page of prizes!

HOW TO MAKE 1932 YOUR LEAP YEAR.

THERE are 123 good reasons why you should use some of your Christmas leisure to make up *Bullets* for the coupons on this page. The first reason is JOHN BULL'S "Double-First" of £600.

In addition to this substantial cheque, which is followed by £50 and £25 and many others, you have as many as 100 opportunities of carrying off a big New Year Hamper together with a £2 cheque.

To make a *Bullet* you have only to add any TWO, THREE or FOUR well-chosen words to one of the *Examples*, remembering that unusual phrasing and neat welding are points to be watched.

For instance, choosing the *Example* GOING FAR, you might add the words IF YOU GO *For*, and thus complete a *Bullet*.

To help you, make a careful study of the winning efforts printed below. See that your entry is in by Saturday, January 2.

50 BIG "BULLETS" CHEQUES AWARDED THIS WEEK!

FIRST PRIZE OF £300, COMPETITION NO. 830

Mr. A. A. JACKSON, 11, Wilson Street, Glasgow.
Example:—THINK OF THE FUTURE AND
Bullet:—YOU WILL "IMPROVE TO-DAY."

SECOND PRIZE OF £100:

Mr. F. Heeley, High Street, Yoxford, East Suffolk.
Example:—Wise Economy
Bullet:—Commences In "Good Time."
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

THIRD PRIZE OF £50:

Mr. G. Bracken, 10, Holywood Road, Belfast.
Example:—At Present
Bullet:—He's Publican And *Thinner*.

OTHER PRIZES:

£40: E. TANNER, The Firs, Princes Risborough.
If Ramsay's Wise—Proceedings Gingered—Proceeding Gingerly.

£30: D. PILNICK, 40, Pleasant Street, Liverpool.
Wise Economy—Spending "Within Britain's Limits."

£25: Mrs. E. BESANT, 34, Walcot Road, Swindon.
High Hopes—Long Hoping Eventually Dwarfs.

£24: W. FLEMING, 148, Rhodeswell Road, Limehouse, E.
Bad For All—Loggerheads—Let's Slog Ahead!

£23: L. WEBB, 53, Shirley Road, Birmingham.
Biting—Sent Treasury Artificial Teeth.

£22: M. BRESLIN, 18, Pearse Square, Dublin.
Discovering The Truth—Round India—Not Table.

£21: S. THAIN, 85, Stockwell Road, Brixton, S.W.
No Change—If Government Starts "Fumbling."

£20: A. PEMBER, 23, Megan Street, Swansea.
Tossing And Turning—World, Through Militarism's "Gluttony."

£19: R. CROWE, Carlyle Villa, Dersingham.
High Hopes—Sonny Has Doctor's *Handwriting*.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

£18: J. RITSON, Drill Hall, Pelling-on-Tyne.
Instantly—"On Mark"—He's "Wide."

£17: P. HALEY, 13, Skiddaw Avenue, Maryport.
When The Hooter Goes—That Steam *Secures* "Envelope."

£16: B. LANGFORD, "Briarfield," Scholar Green, Stoke-on-Trent.
With A Clear Cor nce—Buy British—Before Eight!

£15: N. PEARCE, 2, Howarth e, Lockwood, Yorks.
Man We Elected—Promised Markets—Opens Bazaars!

£14: Mrs. RANSOME, 1, Widop Street, Goole.
Scared Away — Thirst — "Swallow" That, Chancellor!

£13: A. FAULKNER, 9, Moorfields, Stafford.
In The Good Old Days—A "Pound" Was "Tons."

£12: V. W. LEWIS, Peterbrook Road, Birmingham.
Reliable—Advertising Space—Heavyweight's Soles.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

£11: D. TURNER, Avenue Road, Coseley, Bilston.
Wasting No Time—Lawyers, *Starting* The Case.

£10: H. W. JACKSON, "Alpha," St. George's Road, Cheltenham.
One Of The Boys—Jill—Till Bill Ill.

£9: F. MURRAY, 634, Maryhill Road, Glasgow.
Dad's Won A Turkey, So—Prays Armful Hides Skinful.

£8: A. PHILLIPS, Canteen, Scar Village, Harrogate.
Accepting The Position—Bridegroom Wore *Lemon* Blossom.

£7: C. HUNTLEY, 53, Victoria Street, Miskin, Mountain Ash.
To Help Her—Helpers—Wouldn't Harm France.

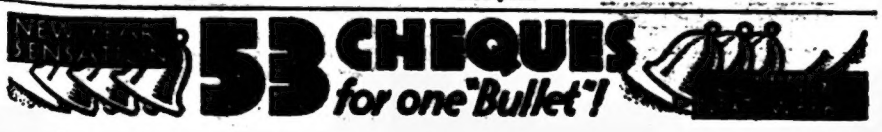
£6: M. CREASLEY, 5, Remount Depot, Chiddingfold.
Idiotic—Thinking—Top Rung "Platform."

A list of 25 £5 and 500 £2 winners can be seen at these offices.

ALL PRIZES HAVE BEEN POSTED

The original cheque for £300 awarded to the First Prize-winner in Competition No. 820 will be displayed in the window of Mr. E Allday, 130, Allerton Road, Liverpool.

"BULLETS" RULES.—1. The First Prize will be awarded for what in the opinion of the judges in consultation with the Editor is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges. 2. Only two attempts may be written on each coupon, and a postal order must be enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of. This must be made payable to JOHN BULL, and crossed / & Co. /. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated. 3. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry. Employees of Odhams Press and their families are not eligible.



"EXAMPLES" FOR COMPETITION No. 832

YEAR AHEAD
KING WINTER
WHEN WE BUY BRITISH
ACCORDING TO PROGRAMME
IN CASE WE FORGET
NATIONAL TEAM
TO MY MIND
DRIVING POWER
CRAMPED HIS STYLE
ROYAL RESPONSE
HUB OF MACHINERY
MAKING CERTAIN
BY THE FIRE
SWALLOWING HER PRIDE
AT LIFE'S BANQUET
TO KEEP HER QUIET
AGE MAY FROWN, BUT
FUMBLING FOR THE KEY
IN THE INTERVAL
ALMOST BURSTING
POOR MAN'S FRIEND
DAD GOT A COLD AND
SPORTING SPIRIT
DEFYING THE LAW
HIS RESOLUTION
GOING FAR
DEMANDING PAYMENT
DOES NO GOOD
ARRIVING LATE
OUR PARTY
FEELING BLUE
IN THE MATRIMONIAL RING

Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(832) P.O. No. _____ Closing SAT. Jan. 2
I agree to enter in accordance with the rules announced on this page. With 1 Coupon send P.O. for 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(832) P.O. No. _____ Closing SAT. Jan. 2
I agree to enter in accordance with the rules announced on this page. With 2 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s.
Signed _____
Address _____

Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(832) P.O. No. _____ Closing SAT. Jan. 2
I agree to enter in accordance with the rules announced on this page. With 3 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(832) P.O. No. _____ Closing SAT. Jan. 2
I agree to enter in accordance with the rules announced on this page. With 4 Coupons, send P.O. for 2s.
Signed _____
Address _____

If you wish to send in more than eight "Bullets" you can write them on plain paper.

ADDRESS ENTRY: "Bullets" No. 832, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2 (Comp.)

NEWSAGENTS' PRIZES.—Cheques for £5, £2 and £1 respectively will be paid to the Newsagents from whom the winners of the three chief prizes in "Bullets" No. 832 usually purchase "John Bull."

Use this Coupon to secure
FREE "BULLETINS"
Our free weekly help for would-be winners is waiting to lift you into the prize-list. Make sure of a copy every Thursday by completing this coupon.

I enclose 6d. P.O. No..... (made payable to "John Bull") to cover postage on twelve issues of "Bullets Bulletin" commencing with next available issue.

NAME .....
ADDRESS.....
.....

Post to:—"BULLETIN" DEPT., ODHAMS PRESS LTD., 19, SHORT'S GARDENS, LONDON, W.C.2

Do not send this coupon with your Bullets entry.

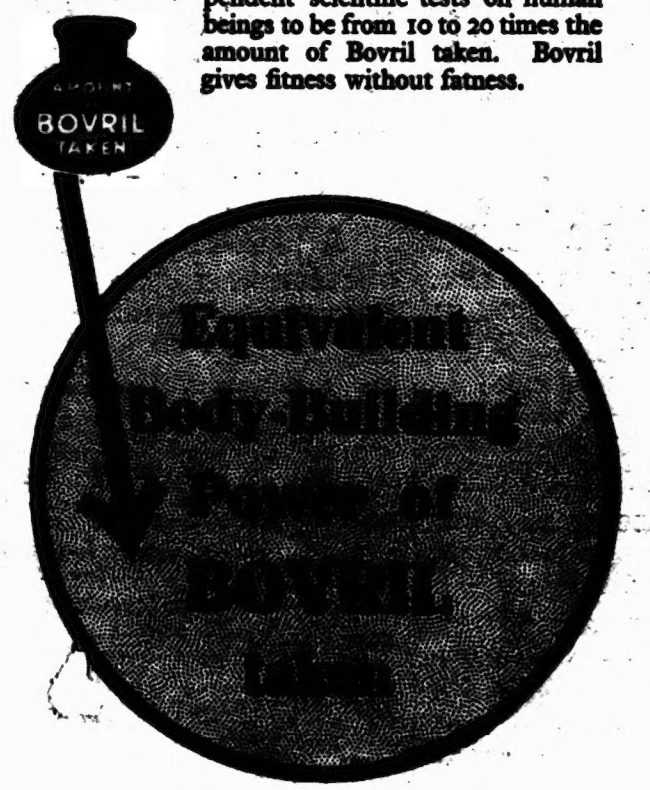
Be at your best this Winter

To be at your best—to feel well and fit to meet the strain of hard work—to avoid colds, chills and other common winter illnesses, you should take definite steps to replace the vital energy that cold and damp take out of you. You should take Bovril.

The special value of Bovril in winter is that it has a direct effect in increasing your vitality. Bovril speeds up and encourages those vital processes on which the healthy activity of body and brain depends.

One cup of Bovril is an immediate restorative when you are cold or tired. By taking Bovril regularly you are progressively building really sound reserves of strength.

The Body-Building power of Bovril has been proved by independent scientific tests on human beings to be from 10 to 20 times the amount of Bovril taken. Bovril gives fitness without fatness.



DRINK BOVRIL AND ENJOY THE WINTER

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